

# (How to Hear the Voice of God)pt 1

Ps 85:8

“Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints, to those who turn to him in their hearts.”

RSV

“I will listen to what God the LORD will say; he promises peace to his people, his saints”

NIV

“I will hear what the Lord God will speak in me: for he will speak peace unto his people: And unto his saints: and unto them that are converted to the heart.”

DRB

**Ps 85:8**

“I will hear what the Lord God will speak in me...”

DRB

## **Principles for Hearing:**

1) God is my Father 1 Jn 2:1

2) My Father has a plan for my life Jer 29:11

3) My Father wants to make known the plan for my life. Is 30:21

## **Today's memory verse:**

Jn 10:27

“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me”

Jn 10:27

What do you think when someone says –

“God told me...”

Do you think that God wants to speak to you?

Do you think God would speak to you?

Do you hear from God?

Do you turn to God for guidance and expect to receive guidance from Him?

Do you ask God for guidance –

Career, moving, money, time, eating, TV, movies

Do you ask God for guidance ad to how to love your Spouse, children, friends, enemy.

Do you ask God how to Discipline your chidlren, perform a certain task

Do you ask God how to Pray, break free of a sin

Do you ever pray –

God, what are you saying to me?

God, what are you asking of me?

We are to be conformed to Jesus, just as Jesus was conformed to the Father.

Ro 8:29

29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the first-born among many brethren.

### Jesus only did what the Father was doing: Jn 5:19-20

19\* Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing; for whatever he does, that the Son does likewise. 20\* For the Father loves the Son, and shows him all that he himself is doing; and greater works than these will he show him, that you may marvel.

### Jesus only said what the Father told him what to teach: Jn 7:16

16 So Jesus answered them, "My teaching is not mine, but his who sent me;

### Jesus taught us we must do the will of the Father: Mt 12:48-50

48 But he replied to the man who told him, "Who is my mother, and who are my brethren?" 49 And stretching out his hand toward his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my brethren! 50\* For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother, and sister, and mother."

### Mt 7:21

21\* "Not every one who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

### The Father commanded Jesus what to say and how to say it: Jn 12:49-50

49 For I have not spoken on my own authority; the Father who sent me has himself given me commandment what to say and what to speak. 50 And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I say, therefore, I say as the Father has bidden me." For I did not speak of my own accord, but the Father who sent me commanded me what to say and how to say it.

### NIV

We needed to be guided like Jesus.

### Imitation of Christ Book 3, Chapter 1

#### THE INWARD CONVERSATION OF CHRIST WITH THE FAITHFUL SOUL

I WILL hear what the Lord God will speak in me." Blessed is the soul who hears the Lord speaking within her, who receives the word of consolation from His lips. Blessed are the ears that catch the accents of divine whispering, and pay no heed to the murmurings of this world. Blessed indeed are the ears that listen, not to the voice which sounds without, but to the truth which teaches within. Blessed are the eyes which are closed to exterior things and are fixed upon those which are interior. Blessed are they who penetrate inwardly, who try daily to prepare themselves more and more to understand mysteries. Blessed are they who long to give their time to God, and who cut themselves off from the hindrances of the world.

### Ears hear a voice Is 30:21

21 And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left.

### When you hear his voice Heb 3:7-11

7\* Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, "Today, when you hear his voice, 8 do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness, 9 where your fathers put me to the test and saw my works for forty years. 10 Therefore I was provoked with that generation, and said, 'They always go astray in their hearts; they have not known my ways.' 11 As I swore in my wrath, 'They shall never enter my rest.'"

Presumed hearing

Sacrament of Confirmation: Is 11:2-3

2\* And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. 3 And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

Counsel To know God's will

Wisdom To know how to do God's will

God wants to speak to us.

Our children should be trained in this.

Story of monastery, Elijah, "This is not the one."

We teach doctrine, but we do little to form relationship (spirituality).

### **Memory Verse for today**

Jn 10:27

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me"

Jn 10:27

My sheep hear...

Hearing from Jesus is a sign and quality of a follower of Jesus.

God wants to speak to us!

### **Tool:**

#### **Lectio Divina**

How do we hear from God.

God Word is what God sounds like.

Trained in hearing God's Word trains our hear to hear God's Word.

Mediate on His Word.

Jos 1:8

8 This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall have good success.

Ps 1:1-3

1\* Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; 2 but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. 3 He is like a tree planted by streams of water, that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

#### Lectio Divina (Divine Reading)

##### Pope Benedict "tool of the New Evangelization"

I would like in particular to recall and recommend the ancient tradition of "Lectio divina": "the diligent reading of Sacred Scripture accompanied by prayer brings about that intimate dialogue in which the person reading hears God who is speaking, and in praying, responds to him with trusting openness of heart" (cf. "Dei Verbum," n. 25). If it is effectively promoted, this practice will bring to the Church – I am convinced of it -- a new spiritual springtime.

*Sept 16th, 2006*

Why – God is speaking to each soul.

Imagine a Church were God speaks to its members daily with

- 1) Encouragement
- 2) Edification
- 3) and exhortation.

Imagine your life is God spoke to you personally each day to Encourage Edify And Exhort YOU!

1 Cor 14:3

But he that prophesieth, speaketh to men unto edification, and exhortation, and comfort.

## **Lectio Divina (Divine Reading)**

**Lectio- to read:** Look up and then write the passage down. As you read have faith that God is speaking to you personally.

**Meditatio – to meditate:** What is God saying to you? Use who, what, where, when, why.

**Oratio – to speak:** Speak to God about what He is saying to you.

**Contemplatio – to contemplate:** Read the passage again. Sit and enjoy the presence of the Lord. Let the Word you have read become a point for God to speak more clearly and personally into your life.

Example:

Use Sunday reading.

Sunday reading a great place to start letting God personally speak into your life. See Journal.

## **Spiritual Exercise:**

Using Lectio Divina, let the Lord speak personally to you through His Word.

Mt 4:18-22

Mk 8:34-36

Jn 1:35-42

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