

## (How to Hear the Voice of God) pt 4

### **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:**

Lk 8:18

18\* Take heed then how you hear...

Lk 8:18

Therefore consider carefully how you listen.

NIV

God wants to speak to us.

He has given us the gifts of counsel and wisdom:

Counsel To know God's will

Wisdom To know how to do God's will

God wants to speak to us to

Encourage

Edify

And Exhort!

We have learned Lectio Divina

Lectio – To Read

Meditatio – To meditate upon

Oratio – To speak

Contemplatio – To contemplate and allow God to speak to us.

God is a Father so he speaks to his children. God usually speaks in a still small voice that is familiar. We saw this with Elijah and Samuel.

We learned the H.O.W.S. of how God speaks:

**H**earth

**O**thers

**W**orld

**S**acred Revelation

We learned that the more we surrender to the promptings of the Holy Spirit the more they will come. We learned how to journal because many times God speaks here a little, there a little, percept upon precept and line upon line. In journaling we need to look for the common thread. Indexing helps us to find the common thread.

Ps 85:8

“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

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We need discernment of spirits. There are three spirits that we need to test:

1. Human spirit
2. Evil spirit
3. Divine spirit

We should use caution, not fear. There are three principles of Discernment:

1. Peace
2. God does not contradict himself
3. Seek wise counsel

We learned 4 Keys for Hearing God’s voice based on Hab 2:1-4:

**Stand** and Watch – Prepare your heart to be ready to receive a word from the Lord knowing that he wants to speak to you.

**Look** to see what He will say. Free your heart and allow the Holy spirit to begin to flow into your soul with a word from the Father. Do not judge. Let words and images flood your soul. Receive the answer.

**Write** in your journal all that the Holy Spirit is bringing to you.

**Run** with what the Lord has placed in your heart, standing in faith, believing that He will do as He promised, no matter how long it may take.

**1 Be Still** – (Ps 42:10) Prepare your heart to be ready to receive a word from the Lord knowing that he wants to speak to you.

**2 Fix your Eyes on Jesus** (Heb 12:2) – We are not looking to our thoughts. We are looking to Jesus to hear what he will say and see what he will show us. Be aware of both word and images that come to you.

**3 Surrender to the Flow of the Holy Spirit** (Jn 7:38-39) - Allow the Holy Spirit to begin to fill you inmost being with words and images. Do not judge them at this point.

**4** Write (Hab 2:1-3) in your journal all that the Holy Spirit is bringing to you.

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**TODAY'S LESSON**

**God Has A Plan for Your Life**

Jer 29:11

11 For I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

God has a plan for your life. Plans for your welfare. Plans for peace. We can trust this plan, but we need to know what it is so we can fulfill it.

God wants to speak His plan to us in every situation:

How we handle relationships.

How we handle conflict.

How we spend our time.

How we spend our money.

Where we live.

Who we marry.

How we forgive.

How we pray.

The Lord say, "I know the plans I have for you..."

**Blocks to Hearing the Voice of God**

- \* Lack of faith that God would speak to you.
- \* Lack of formation as to how to hear from God.
- \* Lack of experience.
- \* Not taking the time to hear from God.
- \* Fear of what God might say.
- \* Not acting on a previous word from God.
- \* Sin on your soul.
- \* Not asking for the grace to hear His voice.
- \* Devotional busyness.

\* The enemy.

### **What if you don't hear?**

- 1) Try to discover God's will Eph 5:10
- 2) Seek Counsel Pro 12:15
- 3) Walk by faith 2 Cor 5:7

Story of college decision

"Bigger than the biggest mistake"

"make the decision and ask for a blessing"

Ro 8:28

28 We know that in everything God works for good with those who love him, who are called according to his purpose.

Don't give up. Hearing takes faith and faith is built by practice.

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### **Tool:**

#### **The Gift of Prophecy**

Prophecy is the gift whereby the Holy Spirit manifest his presence by speaking in first person through a believer to another believer or to the Church.

Prophecy sounds like this –

"Thus saith the Lord, my people..."

"My people, I would say to you..."

"For the Lord would say..."

"Hear me, for I am the Lord, and I say..."

1 Cor 11:7-11

7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 8 To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, 10\* to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. 11 All these are inspired by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.

Share story of women on airplane (word of knowledge and prophecy)

This gift is given to Encourage, Edify, and Exhort

1 Cor 14:3

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

## 1 Cor 14:24-25

24 But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or outsider enters, he is convicted by all, he is called to account by all, 25 the secrets of his heart are disclosed; and so, falling on his face, he will worship God and declare that God is really among you.

Prophecy manifest and makes known the presence, the reality and the personal notice of God. We should eagerly desire, covet the gift of prophecy

## 1 Cor 14:1

1 Make love your aim, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy.

## Num 11:29

29 But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, that the LORD would put his spirit upon them!"

## We should not despise prophecy

19\* Do not quench the Spirit, 20\* do not despise prophesying,

## Non-prophecy

Pious thoughts coming out of a good heart.

Comes out of the human desire.

## False prophecy

Pulls away from god and points to a false god.

Psychic are false prophets.

Can come as words or images.

## **Word of knowledge**

Knowing something you could not humanly know about a person or situation.

Many times the gift of prophecy is coupled with word of knowledge.

## **Guidelines for Prophecy and Word of Knowledge:**

1) Avoid dogmatism by saying, "The Lord told me..."

"It seems                      "I believe                      "I sense

2) It is good to have someone record the prophecy either in written form or as an audio file. This record can be used for two things:

\* Discern the authenticity of the prophecy.

\* To build the persons faith as they wait on the fulfillment.

3) If you sense that you have a word of knowledge or a prophecy speak it out and let the church discern it.

4) Use the gift of tongues before you enter into this ministry as God will reveal things through interpretation of tongues. the Lord is saying or revealing..."

## **Practicing Word of Knowledge and Prophecy:**

Model #1

1) Break into pairs

2) One person will be the receiver and the other the minister.

3) The minister lay hands on the shoulder of the person being ministered to or holds their hands.

4) Receiver ask the Lord in their heart what the Lord would like to do for them.

5) In their heart the minister ask "What area of this person's life do you want to edify, exhort, or encourage, Lord?"

Example: marriage, work, ministry, etc.

6) Minister quietly prays in their heart for what the Lord is revealing to them about the person being ministered to.

7) After a period of time, the minister asks, "Lord, is there anything else that you would like to reveal to me and have me pray for this person.

8) Minister shares his experience: what was revealed and how he prayed.

Receiver shares their experience.

9) Reverse.

Ground rules for ministry time:

1) lay hands softly on shoulder of the person receiving ministry or hold hands.

2) No prophesying or words of knowledge about death or pregnancy or words of judgment. You are not to share this experience out side of here and use the person's name.

Model #2

1) We are going to break groups of four.

Preferably you should find people you do not know.

1<sup>st</sup> person is receiver

2<sup>nd</sup> is minister

3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> are prayer support with the

3<sup>rd</sup> person as recorder writing all down.

2) 2<sup>nd</sup> person, the person doing the ministry prays - "What area of this person's life do you want to edify, exhort, or encourage, Lord?" Example: marriage, work, ministry, etc. Person doing ministry speaks this out. Recorder writes this down.

3) Person doing ministry spends some time in silence asking God what he wants to say or reveal to this person about this area of their life. Person doing ministry allows the Holy Spirit to bring images and any words to be spoken out. Recorder writes this down anything spoken.

4) Person doing ministry ask person if this is connecting with the receiver's life.

5) Person doing ministry prays for person based on what was revealed.

6) These steps are repeated with other members.