

HEARING GOD

Romans 10:17, *“Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the Word of Christ.”*

Faith comes from hearing the voice of God, and then by obeying whatever He says.

God is more concerned about us believing the truth about who He is and who we ARE, than about what we should do or where we should go.

GARDEN OF EDEN



The Tree of:

*The way we think.
We know right from wrong.
Information
How we think*



The Tree of:

*The source of life = GOD
Revelation
How we believe*

Hearing God’s voice is the primary way that we disconnect from our knowledge and reconnect to the source of life.

Hearing God’s voice changes what is inside of our hearts.

How do I hear what God is saying?

1. Through Scripture
2. Through teachers and preachers
3. Through the gift of prophetic words
4. Other ways
5. Personal Revelation
 - Pre-verbal, pre-linguistic: a reality more than a word. A Spirit-to-spirit exchange.
 - He will illuminate the Bible in new ways—an “Ah Ha” moment
 - Mental picture
 - Hear a word or phrase in your mind
 - Feel or sense something

How do I know if this is God or not?

1. Does what I've sensed or heard line up with Scripture and the nature of God revealed in Scripture?
2. Does it produce the fruit of the Spirit?
3. ALL truth has the ability to set people free!

Just what IS the Word of God?

1. It is the breath of God (2 Tim. 3:16).
2. It is alive and active (Hebrews 4:12).
3. It is a PERSON and Scripture.
4. It is the Source.

God's Word creates that which was not, and contains the very thing it describes.

How are our words different than God's words?

His words are REALITY...SUBSTANCE.

Our words are symbols of that reality and substance.

When God speaks to us about our beliefs or identity, He's not trying to convince us to FIND freedom. He's trying to give us what we need in that moment. He is offering to be our supply and our source and our foundation.

Not only does the Word of God CREATE, but according to Colossians 1:17, it also holds all things together.

Anything that is visible to us is made of invisible things.

1. When God speaks things into existence, the substance coming from His mouth is SOUND.
2. All things have substance which is made of molecules... atoms... protons, neutrons, electrons... quarks.
3. Quarks are tiny bundles of SOUND vibrations.

Hebrews 11:1, *"Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."*

Sound precedes substance.

So, how do I respond?

Romans 10:8-10, *"The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*

Confess—means to say what God is saying

It is reading... hearing... believing... speaking... and sometimes acting on what God says.

This begins with God and is fulfilled by God. It is completing the circuit of power.

Does God want to speak to me? YES!

Am I able to hear Him? Yes, if I am willing to be a "receiver."

God is present. He is willing to speak. I must put myself in a place to receive.

SCRIPTURES ABOUT HEARING GOD

Romans 10:17, *"Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the Word of Christ."*

Genesis 15:4, *"The Word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision."*

Genesis 1, *"And God said..."*

John 1:1, *"In the beginning was the Word. And the Word was with God, and the Word WAS God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men..."* v. 14, *"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us."*

Galatians 5:22-23, *"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control."*

2 Timothy 3:16, *"All Scripture is God-breathed..."*

Hebrews 4:12, *"The Word of God is living and active..."*

Colossians 1:17, *"...all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together."*

Hearing God

Hebrews 11:3, *“By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God’s command (WORD), so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.”*

Romans 10:8-10, *“The Word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart. That is the word of faith we are proclaiming. That if you confess with your mouth, Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.”*

LECTIO DIVINA

SACRED READING

READ THE WORD OF GOD SLOWLY FOUR TIMES, each time with a different focus. Read the Word of God, slowly and reflectively so it sinks into me. Any passage of Scripture can be used but should not be too long.

PREPARE|*Silencio*

Begin by quieting myself. Psalm 46:10, "Be still and know that I am God." Relax. Become aware of God's presence with me. Express my willingness to hear God.

READ|*Lectio*|Bite

Listen for the still, small voice of God. Read slowly, attentively, listening to hear a word or phrase that is God's word for me.

REFLECT|*Meditacio*|Chew

How is my life touched by this word? Gently repeat the word or phrase, allow it to interact with my thoughts, hopes, memories, desires.

RESPONSE|*Oratio*|Savor

What is my response to God based on what I have read and encountered?

REST|*Contemplatio*|Digest

Rest in the Word of God. Practice silence, letting go of my own words; enjoy the experience of being in the presence of God. In the final reading release and return to a place of rest in God.

RESOLVE|*Incarnatio*|Live Out

Resolve to carry this word with me and to live it out in the context of daily life and activity. Listen to the word throughout the day until it begins to live in me.

