

“Hearing the Voice of God, and your response”

Numbers 20:7-9

God brokered a deal to save us from the damnation of death, due to our continuous relationship with sins. (which are many)

Jesus Christ was the marker; the guarantee, or the propitiation for us in the deal.

He would become the Savior for our sins; the first of many brethren.

God, just like a Father of a child who speaks to us, and has an expectation for our obedience. No Father speaks instructions to his child and expects anything other, than complete obedience. Pastor Paul spoke so eloquently last week dissecting the scripture below; showing how we don't always have the right response. We respond with rebellion; partial obedience, and emotional outward displays of our feelings.

7 Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 8 “Take the rod; you and your brother Aaron gather the congregation together. Speak to the rock before their eyes, and it will yield its water; thus you shall bring water for them out of the rock, and give drink to the congregation and their animals.” 9 So Moses took the rod from before the Lord as He commanded him.

10 - And Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock; and he said to them, “Hear now, you rebels! Must we bring water for you out of this rock?” 11 Then Moses lifted his hand and struck the rock twice with his rod; and water came out abundantly, and the congregation and their animals drank.

12 - Then the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not believe Me, to hallow Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them."

Moses out of his feelings of anguish, distress, weariness and unappreciated Ness; allowed his response to dishonor God. The wrong response does not stop us from receiving the penalty or consequences of disobedience. Any response other than obedience, is accounted to us as disbelief in God and His power to perform.

How do you hear God? Moses was clear in what God said.

How often are we receiving consequences, because we deviated from Gods instructions; to do what we deemed necessary because of a situation; because of someone, or because of something else?

To help us hear God, we should:

1. **Get quiet** – Create intentional spaces of silence to tune into Gods voice.
2. **Pray and Ask** – Approach God with a full heart of expectation and belief in His guidance.
3. **Wait on the Lord** – trust in Gods timing and wait with patience and faith.
4. **Discern Gods voice** – Spend time in prayer, meditate on scripture, and seek wise counsel to align our lives with Gods will.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

(Proverbs 3:5-6)

“Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, ‘This is the way; walk in it.’” – Isaiah 30:21

(1 Timothy 4:8)

I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting;

Hearing God's voice involves cultivating a relationship with Him through prayer, reading and hearing scripture, silence, and allowing for deeper spiritual connection and guidance.

1. **Prayer:** Engaging in regular prayer is essential for hearing from God. Approach Him with an open heart, asking for guidance and clarity.
James 1:5, encourages believers to ask God for wisdom, promising that He will provide it generously.
2. **Study of Scripture:** The Bible is a primary way God communicates with us. By reading, hearing and meditating on His Word; then we can better understand His will and recognize His voice.
Psalm 119:105 states, "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path," highlighting the importance of scripture in guiding our lives.
3. **Silence and Stillness:** In a noisy world, finding moments of silence is crucial.
Psalms 46:10 says, be still and know that I am God. Creating intention quiet spaces allows us to tune into Gods gentle voice, which speaks in stillness.

4. Waiting with Patience: We must learn to be comfortable, and be at peace with confidence; while peacefully working in the will of the Lord.

1 Corinthians 15:58 says, Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

We should have regular times of meditation with God. So, when Pastor speaks; he is only bringing again to your consciousness, what God has already said audibly and intimately. **Confirmation!**

Our response to Gods word should always be met with obedience, submission, and trust.

Obedience to God's voice often demands faith and courage, as His guidance may lead believers into unfamiliar or challenging situations.

God's word instructs us; keeps us; leads us; heals us; uplifts us; strengthens us, and imparts the wisdom of God upon us.

2 Timothy 3:16 –

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

Moreover, responding to God's voice involves aligning one's life with His purposes and priorities. Romans 12:2 exhorts believers, "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing, and perfect will."

This transformation is a continual process of seeking God's direction and living in accordance with His will.

God's voice requires a posture of humility, readiness, and obedience. Believers are called to cultivate a heart that is sensitive to God's leading, 1 Samuel 3:10, "Speak, for Your servant is listening." This attitude of attentiveness is essential for discerning God's will.

Being “assertive” means, communicating with others in a direct and honest manner without intentionally hurting anyone’s feelings.

Direct communication can reduce conflict, build self-confidence and enhance personal and impersonal relationships.

Proverbs 11:14 notes, “Where there is no counsel, the people fall; But in the multitude of counselors there is safety.” God often uses the community of faith to confirm His direction.

The Holy Spirit plays a crucial role in guiding believers. Jesus promised the Holy Spirit as a helper and guide, saying in John 16:13, "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth." The Spirit aids in discerning God's voice amidst the noise of the world.

Abandoning God's instructions, is our way of telling God that we have a better way or a better plan.

In fact, doing this can be considered prideful of one’s self over God's preeminence, power and resolute ness.

“Like we really in control!” The devil is a liar...

- 1. God is seeking those who would hear His voice and heed to His instructions.**
- 2. Sacrifice their time and give themselves intently to his presence.**
- 3. Seeking to minister to those waiting for His arrival.**

- 4. And even more importantly, how we respond to what He has said.**

Ways to recognize Gods voice –

- 1. Recognize that God has created you for a close friendship with Himself.**

By design, the way you hear best from God is in the context of a friendship with Him. God intends for you to figure out His will freely and intelligently as you engage in regular conversations with Him. God's will is to be personally present with you and speaking with you moment by moment as you go through life. Then you'll grow to understand Him more and become more like His Son, Jesus.

- 2. Consider your motives for wanting to hear from God.**

Honestly reflect on why you want to hear from God. Is it because you're truly open to whatever God has to say and committed to putting His guidance into action and fulfilling His purposes, even when doing so is challenging? Or is it for a selfish reason, such as wanting to feel righteous or comforted?

- 3. Make your goal more than just hearing God.**

While it's important to hear from God, that shouldn't be your ultimate goal. Instead, make your main goal to become a spiritually mature person in a close relationship with God. That's the only way you'll clearly and correctly hear what God has to say to you.

- 4. Don't try to force God to tell you something.**

No matter how much you want to hear from God about something or how hard you may try to convince Him to speak to you, you'll only hear from God when He chooses to communicate with you.

Focus on developing a respectful relationship with God and wait for His timing to deliver messages to you.

5. Know that you're important to God, but be humble.

Have the confidence that God is willing to speak to you just as powerfully as He did to the people in the Bible, because He values you just as much. However, don't let pride creep into your soul, because you must be humble in order to faithfully receive and respond the messages God has for you.

6. Recognize God's voice above all others.

By experience, you can learn to recognize God's voice when He speaks, and to confidently respond to what He says. When thoughts recur, pray about them to discern if they may be coming from God.

Keep in mind that God will never send you a message that contradicts the Bible's principles. Also, God's voice carries the weight of authority within it, and expresses a spirit of peace, confidence, joy, reasonableness, and goodwill. Amen...

We must be chained to Gods purpose; just like Apostle Paul. Our purpose; our future; our sustenance, and our eternity are all at His makings and completion. Hallelujah!

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