

Hearing the Voice of God

By: Darin Slack

Week 2

“Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.” Col. 3:2

Keeping our attention on God by His Spirit. We must become inclined toward Him, leaning in, aware of Him more and more by His Spirit. This is a relationship, not a ritual. This is a friendship, not a formula.

Sense: *perceive by a sense, or senses. Internal or External*

Attention: *the act or faculty of attending, especially by directing the mind to an object. Affectionate inclination. A state of readiness to receive. An expectancy of His response.*

Distraction: *to draw away or divert, as the mind or attention*

When we sense something, it has 3 elements:

- 1) Revelation
- 2) Interpretation
- 3) Application

Ways we can Sense God speaking to us... **Verbal, Visual, and/or Visceral, intelligible communication**

Scripture is God’s voice speaking to us captured for all eternity

Scripture is the pre-eminent way we hear from God. It stands as the authority against which we test any and all things we believe we hear from the Spirit of God.

Internal means of hearing God’s voice

Conviction of conscience... A sense of wrongdoing or correction regarding sinful behavior –
John 16:8 - Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment

A perceived still, small voice/whisper - *an internal, thought-centered conversation*

1 Kings 19:12 - Elijah at the mouth of the cave

Genesis 8:15 - “God spoke to Noah, saying”

Genesis 12:1 - “The Lord had said unto Abram”

Exodus 24:12 - “The Lord said unto Moses”

Isaiah 38:4 - “Then came the word of the Lord to Isaiah ...”

A prompting...*an urge to do something, or not to do something.*

Acts 16:6 - Paul prevented from preaching in Asia by the Spirit

Acts 26:14 - It’s hard for you to kick against the goads

A sudden, moving compassion within...*a visceral, deep caring*

Matt. 9:36, Matt. 14:14 - Jesus was moved with compassion -

A vision, dream, or picture...

Acts 10:10 - Peter (vision of the sheet coming down)

Acts 16:9 - Vision of the Macedonian Call -

Joel 2:28, Acts 2:17 - old men will dream dreams, young men will see visions

Daniel 7 - Daniel had a dream and wrote down the substance (And He looked again, and again...again)

A check/witness within our spirit...*a prompted discernment of a situation, an individual, or entity*

Acts 8:23 - Peter discerning Simon the Sorcerer’s heart

Word of knowledge...*Information about something, or someone, you wouldn’t otherwise know – 1 Cor. 12:8
Jesus and the Samaritan Woman – John 4*

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Peter understanding Ananias and Sapphira's lies - Acts 5

Word of wisdom - A thought impression, insight, inspiration, or directive – 1 Cor. 12:8

Acts 9 - Ananias led to serve Paul

Acts 8:26-end - Philip being led to the Ethiopian eunuch

Discerning of spirits – Capacity to distinguish the spirits at work in a situation – 1 Cor. 12:10

Acts 16:16-24 - Paul discerns evil spirit and casts it out of slave girl

Prophecy for others – A report of something God spontaneously brings to mind

Eagerly desire that you may prophesy - 1 Cor. 14:1, 39

Tongue and Interpretation of Tongues – A gift to speak in other tongues and interpret - 1 Cor. 14: 13

External Means of Hearing God's voice

Preaching and Teaching...Verbal, and/or books included

Acts 4:8-12 - Peter, Spirit came upon him and he said...

1 Cor. 2:4-5 - Preaching not with persuasive words, but with a demo of the Spirit's power

Personal Prophetic ministry from others...

Acts 13:1-3 - Leaders to Paul and Barnabas

Acts 21:9 - Agabus to Paul

Nature, His Creation...

Romans 1:20 - people are without excuse

Psalms 19:1-2 - The heavens declare the glory of God

Wisdom, counsel through others personally...

1 Samuel 13:13-14 - Samuel tells Saul he's lost the Kingdom

1 Samuel 15:23 - The Lord delights in obedience

2 Samuel 12:7-15 - Nathan Rebukes David

Acts 9:17 - Ananias speaking to Paul

Sovereign Situations/Circumstances/Lessons...divine appointments or coincidence - Romans 8:26-32

Acts 8:26-end - Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch

Acts 9 - Ananias serving Paul

Acts 10 - Cornelius being directed to locate Peter in Simon the Tanner's Home

Audible Voice...

John 12:28 -Voice from heaven speaking about Jesus

Acts 9:4,7- Jesus speaking to Saul on the Road to Damascus

Angels...

Acts 10:3 - Angel spoke to Cornelius

Acts 12:7 - Angel stood by Peter in Prison

Ways to cultivate sensing God's voice in our lives

Walking with the Holy Spirit

- 1) Keep in step with the Spirit – Gal 5:25
- 2) Pray in the Spirit – 1 Cor. 14, Jude 20-21
- 3) Don't grieve the Holy Spirit – Eph. 4:30-31
- 4) Don't quench the Holy Spirit – 1 Thess. 5:19