

# How To Hear God's Voice

John 10:27

To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice:  
and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. – John 10:3  
My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.

Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD: The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. The LORD called Samuel a third time, and Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak, LORD; for thy servant heareth. So Samuel went and lay down in his place. – 1 Samuel 3:1-10

And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the LORD. And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the LORD; *but* the LORD *was* not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; *but* the LORD *was* not in the earthquake:  
12 And after the earthquake a fire; *but* the LORD *was* not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice.  
– 1 Kings 19:11-12

## Introduction

- The importance of hearing His voice.
- The urgent call. The lover's whisper. The friend's direction.
- God is always speaking. He is always trying to communicate with you his people, his child.
- Surrogate listeners - Israel, no Moses you hear God's voice and tell us what he says.

## I. How We Hear God

- Word - His word is living, active, and powerful - Hebrews 4:12 Able to build you up and give you an inheritance. Acts 20 It shall be with you and you shall read from it every day of your life. (king)
- Whisper - John 10:3,27 My sheep hear my voice and follow me. "I will meet you at the mercy seat and commune with you there, morning and evening." Ex
- Witnesses - God messengers, God-listeners, telegraph the message to you. Preaching and teaching are God-ordained means of communication. Listen!

## II. Hindrances to Hearing God

Time -

Space -

Crowds -

Noise -

Hurry -

## III. Helps for Hearing God

How are you going to get within ear-shot of your Creator?

- Daily Quiet Times (mornings) Ask God to speak through his word.
- Moments of Silence and Solitude (evenings) Ask God to whisper.
- Retreat Away with God (periodically, 3 x per year) Ask God to direct.

You need silent times

You need solitude times

You need still times

# Conclusion

What'cha gonna do now? You know he has spoken, is speaking, wants to speak to you this week. What are you going to do now? How are you going to get within ear-shot of your Creator?

## *Open Our Eyes, Lord*

*Open our eyes, Lord  
We want to see Jesus.  
To reach out and touch him  
To tell him I love him*

*Open our ears, Lord  
And help us to listen  
Open my eyes, Lord  
I want to see Jesus*

*Words and music: Robert Cull  
From: Guitar Picker - [www.gospelmusic.tk](http://www.gospelmusic.tk)*

## Quotes

*If a man wants to be used by God,  
he cannot spend all of his time with people.*" – A. W. Tozer

Dietrich Bonhoeffer in *Life Together*

'Let him who cannot be alone beware of community... Let him who is not in community beware of being alone... each by itself has profound pitfalls and perils. One who wants fellowship without solitude plunges into the void of words and feelings, and one who seeks solitude without fellowship perishes in the abyss of vanity, self-infatuation, and despair.'

C. S. Lewis in his *Screwtape Letters*, The devil says:

"Music and silence—how I detest them both! How thankful we should be that ever since our father (that is Lucifer) entered hell no square inch of infernal space and no moment of infernal time has been surrendered to either of those abominable forces, but all has been occupied by, Noise—Noise, the grand dynamism, the audible expression of all that is exultant, ruthless and virile—Noise which alone defends us from silly qualms, despairing scruples and impossible desires. We will make the whole universe a noise in the end. We have already made great strides in this direction as regards the earth. The melodies and silences of heaven will be shouted down in the end."

Missionary martyr Jim Elliot knew of the battle:

"I think the devil has made it his business to monopolize on three elements: noise, hurry, crowds . . . Satan is quite aware of the power of silence."<sup>13</sup>

Mother Teresa she added that without doubt

"God is the friend of silence. His language is silence. And he requires us to be silent to discover him. We need, therefore, silence to be alone with God, to speak to him, to listen to him and to ponder his words deep in our hearts. We need to be alone with God in silence to be renewed and to be transformed. For silence can give us a new outlook on life. In it we are filled with the grace of God, which makes us do all things with joy."

A. W. Tozer expanded on this by saying,

Retire from the world each day to some private spot, even if it be only the bedroom (for a while I retreated to the furnace room for want of a better place). Stay in the secret place till the surrounding noises begin to fade out of your heart and a sense of God's presence envelopes you. . . . Listen for the inward Voice till you learn to recognize it. Stop trying to compete with others. Give yourself to God and then be what and who you are without regard to what others think. . . . Learn to pray inwardly every moment. After a while you can do this even while you work. . . . Read less, but more of what is important to your inner life. Never let your mind remain scattered for very long. Call home your roving thoughts. Gaze on Christ with the eyes of your soul. Practice spiritual concentration. All the above is contingent upon a right relation to God through Christ and daily meditation on the Scriptures. Lacking these, nothing will help us; granted these, the discipline recommended will go far to neutralize the evil effects of externalism and to make us acquainted with God and our own souls.<sup>18</sup>