

How to Hear from God

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Scripture References

Proverbs 20:27	1 Samuel 3:1-10
Ephesians 1:13	Jeremiah 1:4, 5
John 10:27	Acts 8:29-31, 35
Genesis 2:16	Acts 9:11-18
Genesis 6:12-16	Acts 10:3-6
Genesis 22:10-12, 15-18	

Summary

The world is not accustomed to the idea of hearing from God; however, as Christians we have a blood-bought right to hear from Him. Getting directions from Him enables us to make wise decisions and avoid traps that others fall into. Hearing Him clearly and distinctly can literally save our lives. God is always talking to us; our job is to deliberately and intentionally screen out all distractions and listen for His voice. He speaks to us about everyday situations and gives us clear and concise information; there is never any uncertainty or guessing when we hear from Him. God wants to speak into our lives, guide us, and tell us His will concerning us. Developing a relationship with Him so that we can hear what He says allows Him to rescue and deliver us, and make our lives a powerful witness to others.

A. God, who is a Spirit, speaks to our spirits. He gives us details and information we need.

1. The spirit of man is the candle of the LORD, searching all the inward parts of the belly (Proverbs 20:27).
 - a. We are spirit beings possessing souls and living in physical bodies. God uses our spirits in the same way we use a candle in the dark. The candle provides guidance when there is no light; the way God provides guidance to *us* is through our spirits.
 - b. Our born-again spirits are sealed with the Holy Ghost (Ephesians 1:13). He instructs our spirits this way; those instructions then make their way to our consciousness. Our conscious minds are the voice of our spirits.
2. If we have been born again, we are in the sheep fold.
 - a. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me (John 10:27).
3. There are five ways we can tell what we are hearing in our spirits is the voice of God and not of the enemy:
 - a. When God speaks, what we hear goes against the world's reasoning and rationalizations.
 - b. When God speaks, it lines up with His written Word.
 - c. When God speaks, faith is required to take possession of what He says.
 - d. When God speaks, we need courage to step out in faith.
 - e. When God speaks, His Word will always bring us peace in our hearts.

B. God spoke to man under the old covenant; He continues to speak to us even now.

1. God has always been talking to mankind clearly and plainly, even from the beginning. He did not talk to Noah vaguely but with specific details. When the angel of the Lord spoke to Abraham and warned him not to kill his son, it was actually Jesus before He came to earth in a physical body.
 - a. And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat (Genesis 2:16).
 - b. And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth. And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth. Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch. And this is the fashion which thou shalt make it of: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, the breadth of it fifty cubits, and the height of it thirty cubits. A window shalt thou make to the ark, and in a cubit shalt thou finish it above; and the door of the ark shalt thou set in the side thereof; with lower, second, and third stories shalt thou make it (Genesis 6:12-16).
 - c. And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I. And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me... And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice (Genesis 22:10-12, 15-18).
2. And the child Samuel ministered unto the LORD before Eli. And the word of the LORD was precious in those days; there was no open vision. And it came to pass at that time, when Eli was laid down in his place, and his eyes began to wax dim, that he could not see; And ere the lamp of God went out in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was, and Samuel was laid down to sleep; That the LORD called Samuel: and he answered, Here am I. And he ran unto Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou calledst me. And he said, I called not; lie down again. And he went and lay down. And the LORD called yet again, Samuel. And Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And he answered, I called not, my son; lie down again. Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, neither was the word of the LORD yet revealed unto him. And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And Eli perceived that the LORD had called the child. 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. And the LORD came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth (1 Samuel 3:1-10).
 - a. Young Samuel clearly heard God when God called him. There is no denying God's voice when He wants to talk to us and tell us what we are supposed to do.
3. Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations (Jeremiah 1:4, 5).

- a. God longs to communicate to us the purpose of our lives; He wants to talk to us and tell us what we are supposed to do.
4. Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot. And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest? And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him...Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus (Acts 8:29-31, 35).
 - a. God continues talking to us under the new covenant of grace, which is better than the old covenant. The Holy Spirit living in us will speak to us and tell us exactly what we need to do.
 - b. God spoke to Ananias and told him exactly where to find Paul (Acts 9:11-18).
 - c. God spoke to Cornelius and told him where to find Simon Peter (Acts 10:3-6).

Category: spiritual growth

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