



Life can be full of unknown pitfalls and dangers. If we had nothing to guide us through the spiritual mine fields we walk through every day except our own limited knowledge, we'd be in serious trouble. Now think of what we could accomplish and the traps we could avoid if we could hear the necessary warnings from God. The world scoffs at that, but hearing what He tells us every day is vital to our success as believers.

It's not that God's not saying anything; He's actually talking to us all the time. The question is, are we listening? It's a noisy world we live in, and unless we deliberately tune in to His frequency and screen out all the distractions, we'll miss what He says.

We are spirits possessing souls and living in physical bodies. God is a spirit. The way He talks to us is in our spirits; He provides guidance and direction to our spirits in the same way we use candles for illumination. *"The spirit of a man is the lamp of the LORD, SEARCHING ALL THE INNER DEPTHS OF HIS HEART"* (Proverbs 20:27, NKJV). Without God's voice speaking into our lives, we'd be fumbling around in the dark.

This is what distinguishes born-again believers from the world—a new spirit that God has placed inside of us, one that's as perfect as His. Our spirits have been sealed with the Holy Ghost, who instructs our spirits and tells us what

we need to know. When our spirits agree with the Holy Spirit, His message to us goes to our conscious minds, which is the voice of our spirits.

God wants to speak to us not just once or twice, but all the time. Establishing a relationship with Him enables us to hear Him, and allows *Him to lead us*. *"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me"* (John 10:27). For us to find our direction in life, we need to be able to pick out which voice is actually from God.

Hearing from God isn't the spooky, "too deep" thing that most people make it out to be. There are plenty of voices in the world today, but not all of them are from Him. When we think we've heard from God, there are five safeguards to follow to know for sure whether or not it was really Him:

1. When God speaks, it will go against reason and worldly rationalization.
2. When God speaks, it lines up with His written Word.
3. When God speaks, it requires faith.
4. When God speaks, it requires courage.
5. When God speaks, there will be peace.

When God tells us something we can get confused if we try to logically reason it out, but it will never contradict what's in the Bible; we should always check whatever we hear

against the Scriptures. He'll never tell us to do anything that doesn't require faith to follow up on. It also requires the courage to step out in faith, even if it's uncomfortable. Whether or not we have peace when we act is a huge indicator of whether or not it came from God; we need to let peace rule in our hearts like an umpire (Colossians 3:15, AMPC).

Hearing the clear directions God gives us isn't anything new; He's been talking to mankind since the beginning. In the garden of Eden, He told man to take care of the earth, and specifically warned against eating of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. When the world became totally evil, He gave Noah detailed plans—not just vague impressions—on how to build the ark. Later on, if Abraham hadn't been listening so closely for God, he might have accidentally sacrificed his own son, but God sent him last-minute instructions otherwise.

The believers in the Old Testament who lived by the old covenant benefitted from hearing God; He's just as willing to talk to *us*. Hebrews

8:6 says that the new covenant we live under is better than the old one. What we have now gives us a tremendous advantage. Quieting ourselves down lets us hear from God loud and clear.

Taffi and I love you and pray for you every day. May the blessing of God be on you and your family. Remember, Jesus is Lord, and "*...in all of your getting, get understanding.*"

In Expectation,



Creflo Dollar

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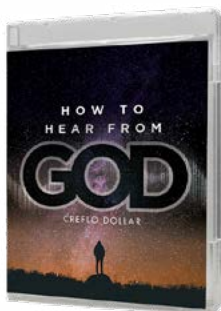
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I know God's voice, and I follow Him. (John 10:27)

God's peace rules my heart like an umpire. (Colossians 3:15, AMPC)

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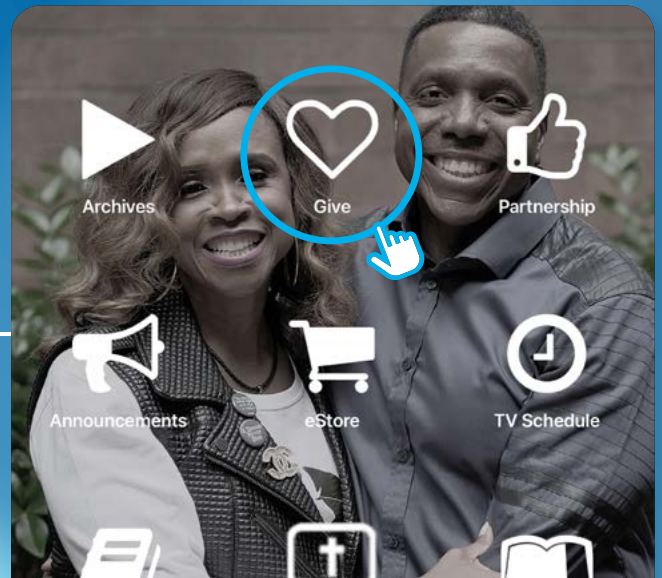
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SAMARITAN'S PURSE VOLUNTEERS ARE PACKING HYGIENE KITS TO HELP UKRAINIANS FLEEING THE CHAOS AND DESTRUCTION OF WAR.

"People, families even, who are still in the conflict zone need basic supplies" explained UK Director Darren Tosh who had just finished visiting some of the areas heavily damaged by war. "Samaritan's Purse is the largest responder in Ukraine, and we need to get more basic necessities to families who are desperate.

A hygiene kit will last for 30 days and will be delivered into the hands of those who most need them. Please join us."

These kits serve practical and emotional purposes, restoring normalcy and dignity to suffering people.

In Northern Ireland, a dedicated team of volunteers spent over a week packing hygiene kits, which included items such as soap, a toothbrush, comb, razor, toilet paper, shampoo, washcloth, feminine hygiene items, and other essentials, as well as a drawstring bag to carry them in.

"It costs about £10 to pack a hygiene kit", explains Gillian, a Samaritan's Purse Regional Manager, "and these are essentials for a family for one month."

Every package is a chance to show families in Ukraine that they are loved, and that the Lord has not forgotten them in their time of need.

Over 8,000 hygiene kits are already on their way to Ukraine, but we need your help to send more.

Just a simple gift of £10 can provide a family with the basic hygiene essentials they need.

There are still so many who are fleeing or are trapped by the conflict and are without access to these essential items. You can put a hygiene kit into their hands by donating today.

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