

How God Speaks To His People

I. God Has Created Us To Hear His Voice

A. Most people today feel that hearing the voice of God is a very abnormal and difficult task, yet Scripture reveals that hearing God's voice should be an _____ experience.

1. John 10:27 –

2. Proverbs 20:12 –

3. Revelation 2,3 – 7x Jesus admonishes “He who has an ear _____.”

B. Our ability to hear God is NOT based upon _____ but upon the truth that we are His creation _____. We do not have to _____ to hear the voice of God!

1. Gen 3:8 and Genesis 4:9,10 illustrate this truth:

C. The _____ can harden our hearts and greatly *hinder* us from opening our spiritual ears and hearing His voice. However, God has _____ by the blood of His Son for every hindrance and every obstacle that would stand in the way of communication and communion with Him. If we desire to hear the voice of the Father, we need to realize **He has already made the way!**

1. Psalm 95:7,8 -

2. If we will _____ and _____, we WILL hear His voice because (1) _____ and (2) _____!

D. Gen 3:10-13 – reveals the _____ nature of God's communication with His kids.

II. The Holy Spirit – God’s Agent of Communication

A. While our Heavenly Father does still send angelic messengers with a word or instruction from Him (see _____), more often He speaks in this age to His people through His Spirit. As His instrument of communication, the Holy Spirit speaks directly to _____ of a person. He is God's agent to lead us into all truth and the one who gives us the ability to rightly divide the Word of truth so that we properly understand and apply the Scripture in our lives. He _____ what is muddy and _____ us to the heart, mind and will of the Father.

B. John 14:26-

Note : *paracletos* in the Greek – means “one called alongside” –signifies helper, comforter, counselor, intercessor and advocate.

C. John 15:26 –

D. John 16:8 –

E. John 16:12-15 –

III. Communication Vehicles – Opportunities Through Which the Holy Spirit Speaks

A. The Written Word – (see John 6:63 and 2 Cor 3:6) –

B. Prayer –

C. His Body -

D. Circumstances -

1. Saul on Road to Damascus – The circumstance was _____

_____. But it was all because God had something to say to him! What does God have to say to YOU through your current circumstances???

E. Dreams and Visions -

1. Here are a few examples from Scripture: _____

IV. Learning to Discern His Voice

A. DISCERNMENT COMES AS A PROCESS OF GROWTH AND PRACTICE

1. Hearing the voice of God is not hard, but each of us must continually _____ in order to grow in our "receptive" abilities. _____ gives the key to growing in our ability to discern the difference between other voices and the voice of the Holy Spirit.

*"But solid food belongs to those who are mature, that is, those **who by reason of use have their senses trained to discern both good and evil.**" (Hebrews 5:14)*

2. The key to discerning the voice of God is to _____
_____ to receive His communication. As we spend time with the Father and extend our faith to hear from Him, then His voice _____.

a) Calf and mother illustration -

B. DIFFERENT PEOPLE HEAR FROM GOD IN DIFFERENT WAYS

1. Most Christians find that as they grow in their ability to discern God's voice, they become _____
_____.

2. Police Scanner – tuning in to different frequencies

C. The 3 Major “Frequencies” – How God Communicates

1. SEEING- _____ categories

- a) _____ - They can be described as receiving _____
- b) _____ which are prompted by the Holy Spirit. For some, they come as an _____ mental picture but for others, the images _____ in their minds eye like Polaroid film.

(1) Scriptural illustration – John 1:48 –

(2) Personal illustration –

- c) _____ - They are supernatural occurrences where _____ . A vision is often like _____ .

(1) Scriptural Illustrations – 2 Kings 6:17 and Acts 10:10,11 -

- d) _____ - These are visions which occur while _____ .

e)

(1) Scriptural illustrations – Gen 20:3 and Matt 1:20 -

2. HEARING - Hearing the voice of the Spirit can come as an _____ voice to the human ear or as a _____ involving specific words communicated from the Holy Spirit to the human spirit.

a) 1 Kings 19:11-13 -

b) Other Scriptural Illustrations – 1 Sam 3:10 and Isaiah 6:8 -

3. FEELING (_____ OR _____)

a) Most often comes as a _____ about a situation, person, etc. but without _____ of it.

b) Many times this is called, " _____".

c) In other cases, it might be feeling the _____

d) _____
_ as the Lord communicates how He wants you to pray for them.

e) Finally, _____ is a way of sensing what the Lord is saying to you.

f) Sensing or impressions often accompany the _____

g) _____ God gives us to help us interpret what the picture means.

h) Scriptural Illustrations –

(1) “When he was set down on the judgement seat, his wife sent unto him, saying, Have thou nothing to do with that just man: for I have suffered [*Greek: pascho, meaning to experience a sensation or impression*] many things this day in a dream because of him.” - Matthew 27:19

(2) “After they came to Mysia, they tried to go into Bythinia: but the Spirit did not permit them.” - Acts 16:7 *** NOTE: The Holy Spirit did not bodily stand in their way, but rather brought a constraining, a “check” or “inner witness” which said, “Don’t” and conveyed to them God’s direction in the matter.

(3) “And straightaway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt [*Greek: came to know*] in her body that she was healed of that plague. And Jesus, immediately knowing in Himself that virtue had gone out of him, turned” - Mark 5:29,30

i) Personal Illustration –