



**Educate
+ Engage**



WHO ARE YOU
LISTENING
TO?



God's Voice

OVERVIEW

The Lord will speak to His people if we are willing to listen.

Scripture Passage

1 Kings 19:11 (KJV)

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: And after the earthquake a fire; but the Lord was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice.

EDUCATE

Has it ever occurred to you that things are being transmitted all around us that we do not see and do not hear because we are not tuned in? From wireless signals to sound frequencies, they are everywhere and often we don't even think about them until they are needed.

Let's have some fun. How many sound frequencies do you think there are? (Answer: The estimates are approximately 45,000hz.)

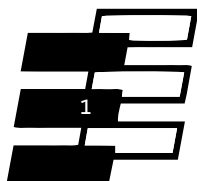
How many sound frequencies do you think humans can hear? (Answer: The average range is between 20hz to 20,000hz.)

Point 1: We should seek the voice of God, which never contradicts Scripture.

The frequencies around us can be tuned into if you have the right connection. In a world filled with endless voices, it is more important than ever to understand and seek the voice of God. The first thing we must understand is a vital principle to hearing the voice of God. The voice of God will never contradict the Word of God. If you feel that the Lord has spoken to you to do something contrary to His words in the Bible, it is not the voice of God.

What are some examples of things the Lord would not speak to His people?

If there are things that are hurtful to others, harmful to yourself, or voices that tear you down, those thoughts are not the Lord. If the voice you hear repeats the negativity and bullying of your past, you can be assured, it is not of the Lord.



What are ways the Lord can speak to you?

Point 2: God wants to speak with us, and His voice is not limited to special circumstances.

The Lord speaks to confirm His Word and He will guide us. It might be in prayer. It could be through the preaching of the Word. It may be while reading the Bible. It could be during an altar service or even while doing the mundane things of life. There are no limits of when Jesus can speak to you.

Consider Moses, who was doing his normal daily work of tending the sheep. He had done the same thing day after day, but this day was unique: "And when the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I" (Exodus 3:4, ESV). It wasn't a special holiday or a special service with their favorite worship song. It was an ordinary day that changed his life and story.

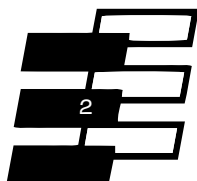
When Moses heard the voice from the burning bush, what do you think he thought? What would you think if that happened to you today?

Point 3: Recognize that God speaks to us in different ways, not always in a booming voice from Heaven.

It could be like that in your life where you hear the voice of God driving down the road, taking the bus, walking down the halls of your school. Nothing is out of the question. But sometimes the voice of God is not a booming voice from Heaven that is audible that everyone hears. Sometimes it's different.

It is like what Elijah experienced on a very down day. He felt he was all alone and the Lord stepped on the scene: "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: 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). Perhaps the Lord is not screaming but is speaking in the whispers. The still small voice, that random thought and urge may be when the Lord is speaking to us.

The Lord will speak to His people, if we are willing to listen. The question throughout this series has been "who are you listening to?" With all the voices pointing us in different directions, we must make up in our mind to listen to godly counsel. Godly instructions guide us in the ways that please God. If we listen to anybody, anything, or the most popular thing, it will lead us to places we should never be. It's a choice that you will make either intentionally or by accident, but at some point, we all have to make the decision of who will we listen to. Listen to Jesus and you will always follow Jesus!



Closing

Jesus still speaks to His people. He spoke to them through various means and methods, but the fact is, He will speak to His people. You and I are able to hear the voice of God when we listen. Make it a priority to turn off the distractions and notifications and be steady in the presence of the Lord.

ENGAGE

Today I want you to pray the prayer of the prophet Samuel: Speak Lord, your servant is listening. I believe as we pray that, the Lord will continue to guide us through various ways in showing us His will and His way.

