



**Pastoral Answers to Life's Questions:
How Do I Hear God's Voice?**

“Call to me, and I will answer you,
and I will tell you great and mighty things, which you do not know.”
(Jeremiah 33:3)

“Why, if God is personal, would he not also *talk* with us?”
Dallas Willard, *Hearing God*

Does God still speak to us today?

- John 10:27 -
- John 16:13 -
- Romans 8:14&16 –
(cf. 1 John 2:27)

G. Campbell Morgan: “The doctrine of the inner light is not sufficiently taught. To the individual believer, who is, by the very fact of relationship to Christ, indwelt by the Holy Spirit of God, there is granted the direct impression of the Spirit of God on the Spirit of man, imparting knowledge of his will in matters of the smallest and greatest importance. This has to be sought and waited for.”

What are some of the ways God communicates with us?

1. **Creation** (Ps 19:1-2, 4)
2. **Conscience** (Rom 2:15)
3. **Counsel** (Prov 19:20-21)
4. **Circumstances** (Prov 16:9; Eph 2:10)
5. **Emotions** (Phil 4:6-7; Neh 8:10)
6. **Desires** (Ps 37:4; Phil 2:13)
7. **Scripture** (Heb 4:12)

The Bible is:

- Inspired (2Tim 3:16-17; 2Pet 1:20-21)
- Inerrant & Infallible (Prov 30:5; Jn 17:17)
- Absolutely Authoritative (Mt 5:17-19)
- Complete (Rev 22:18-19; Jude 3)

How do I know if God is really speaking to me?

We have to learn to recognize God's voice:

- The example of Samuel (1Sam 3:1-10)
- The example of Elijah (1Ki 19:11-13)

6 Principles for Recognizing God's Voice:

- 1. Does this agree with the clear teaching of Scripture?**
- 2. Does this align with God's character?**
- 3. Does this cater to my sinful desires or selfish motives?**
- 4. Does this produce peace in my soul? (Jn 14:27)**
- 5. Is this convicting... or condemning?**
- 6. Is this clear... or confusing?**

Do you expect to hear from God?

Matthew 11:15 - "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

- Passive Listening –
- Aggressive Listening –