

Hearing God

31

Days Of The Month

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*ONE FOR EVERY
DAY OF THE
MONTH. MEDITATE
ON THESE EACH
MONTH*

1

THE MAIN PURPOSE OF HEARING IS COMMUNICATION, BUT THE DEEPER MEANING IS THE MOTIVATION BEHIND HEARING. WHY IS THE PERSON SAYING IT? IN GOD'S CASE, EVERYTHING IS MOTIVATED BY LOVE; EVEN WHEN WE HEAR HIM SAY, "WAIT" OR "NO."

2

THE NAME “LOGOS” IS THE LITERAL “WORD” FOR JESUS AS STATED IN THE VERY BEGINNING OF THE GOSPEL OF JOHN. WHEN GOD WANTED US TO “HEAR” HIM, HE MADE HIMSELF “AUDIBLE” THROUGH “THE WORD,” JESUS CHRIST. YOU’RE HEARING FROM GOD WHEN YOU READ THE WORDS OF CHRIST AND EVERYTHING WRITTEN ABOUT HIM.

3

**HOW CAN WE KNOW
THAT HEARING FROM JE-
SUS CHRIST IS THE SAME AS
HEARING GOD THE FATHER?**

**“...THE FATHER WHO SENT ME
HAS HIMSELF COMMANDED
ME WHAT TO SAY AND HOW
TO SPEAK.” JOHN 12:49**

4

IN ORDER TO
HEAR GOD, WE
NEED TO HEAR JE-
SUS. “I AND THE
FATHER ARE ONE.”

JOHN 10:30

5

ARE WE THE ONLY ONES WHO DOUBT THAT WE CAN HEAR JESUS? NO. THE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST STRUGGLED WITH DOUBT AS WELL: PHILIP SAID, "LORD, SHOW US THE FATHER AND THAT WILL BE ENOUGH FOR US." JESUS ANSWERED: "DON'T YOU KNOW ME, PHILIP, EVEN AFTER I HAVE BEEN AMONG YOU SUCH A LONG TIME? ANYONE WHO HAS SEEN ME HAS SEEN THE FATHER. HOW CAN YOU SAY, 'SHOW US THE FATHER'? JOHN 14:8,9

6

MANY THINK THAT THE ONLY THING THAT COMES OUT OF GOD'S MOUTH IS CORRECTION OR CRITICISM OR JUDGMENT. THIS ATTITUDE MAY ORIGINATE FROM OUR EXPERIENCES WITH PARENTS AND/OR ROLE MODELS AND AUTHORITY FIGURES IN OUR LIVES. BUT "LISTEN" TO GOD'S WORDS: "I HAVE LOVED YOU WITH AN EVERLASTING LOVE." JEREMIAH 31:3

7

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8

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9

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10

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11

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12

MANY THINK THAT THE ONLY THING THAT COMES OUT OF GOD'S MOUTH IS CORRECTION OR CRITICISM OR JUDGMENT. THIS ATTITUDE MAY ORIGINATE FROM OUR EXPERIENCES WITH PARENTS AND/OR ROLE MODELS AND AUTHORITY FIGURES IN OUR LIVES. BUT "LISTEN" TO GOD'S WORDS: "GREATER LOVE HAS NO ONE THAN THIS: TO LAY DOWN ONE'S LIFE FOR ONE'S FRIENDS." JOHN 15:13

13

MANY THINK THAT THE ONLY THING THAT COMES OUT OF GOD'S MOUTH IS CORRECTION OR CRITICISM OR JUDGMENT. THIS ATTITUDE MAY ORIGINATE FROM OUR EXPERIENCES WITH PARENTS AND/OR ROLE MODELS AND AUTHORITY FIGURES IN OUR LIVES. BUT "LISTEN" TO GOD'S WORDS:" WHO SHALL SEPARATE US FROM THE LOVE OF CHRIST... NEITHER HEIGHT NOR DEPTH, NOR ANYTHING ELSE IN ALL CREATION, WILL BE ABLE TO SEPARATE US FROM THE LOVE OF GOD THAT IS IN CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD."

ROMANS 8:35,39

14

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15

IS ALWAYS ASKING GOD QUESTIONS SELFISH? NO. BUT THE TYPES OF QUESTIONS ASKED MAY BE A GOOD INDICATOR OF MATURITY. SCRIPTURE CLEARLY TEACHES THAT HE KNOWS OUR "NEEDS." PESTERING HIM FOR A RAISE MAY NOT BE SELFISH. BUT ONLY ASKING FOR THINGS MAY BE. AS WE GROW IN GOD, OUR PRAYER LIFE SHIFTS INTO MANY THINGS BESIDES OUR "NEEDS." WE GRADUATE TO A RELATIONSHIP THAT WANTS TO KNOW WHAT'S ON GOD'S MIND, OR AS SOME PUT IT, "WE SEEK HIS FACE AND NOT HIS HAND."

16

IF YOU'RE NOT REGULARLY HEARING HOW MUCH GOD LOVES YOU IN YOUR JOURNALING TIME, YOU MAY HAVE A SPIRITUAL HEARING LOSS IN THAT FREQUENCY! CAN YOU IMAGINE A PARENT SPARSELY UTTERING THOSE WONDERFUL THREE WORDS, "I LOVE YOU?"

17

IT'S IMPORTANT TO JOURNAL BECAUSE IT IS EASY TO FORGET WHAT WE HEARD. IF YOU HEARD A DISTINCTIVE WORD ABOUT A PARTICULAR SUBJECT AND YOU FORGET IT SIMPLY BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T WRITE IT DOWN, THAT COULD BE A SIGN OF LAZINESS. RECORD IT ON YOUR PHONE IF YOU HAVE TO, BUT DON'T LOSE IT!

18

WHEN WE PRAY, WE SHOULD DELIBERATELY FOCUS ON “HEARING” GOD VERSUS “TALKING TO” HIM. THAT’S WHY SCRIPTURE TELLS US THAT WE HAVE TWO EARS AND ONLY ONE MOUTH! (JAMES 1:19)

19

**IT'S IMPORTANT TO LISTEN
TO GOD WHEN WE HAVE
OUR DEVOTIONAL AND
JOURNALING TIME. BUT IT'S
ALSO IMPORTANT TO SPEAK.
DON'T BE AFRAID TALK WITH
HIM AS THE "WONDERFUL
COUNSELOR" (ISAIAH 9:6)**

20

JUST AS WE LOVE HEARING FROM GOD THAT HE LOVES US, WE SHOULD ALSO BE CONCERNED THAT HE HEARS US SAY THE SAME THING. EXPRESSING OUR LOVE FOR HIM THROUGH JOURNALING IN WRITING BRINGS THE SAME KIND OF JOY TO HIM AS A LETTER FROM A CHILD BRINGS JOY TO A PARENT.

21

ONE WAY WE KNOW WE ARE HEARING AND LOVING GOD WHEN HE SPEAKS IS BY MONITORING OUR ACTIONS. FOR EXAMPLE, IF WE ARE HAVING TROUBLE IN A RELATIONSHIP OR RELATIONSHIPS AND ARE PERPLEXED AS TO WHY, IT COULD BE WE ARE NOT LISTENING TO HIS "TAKE" ON THE SUBJECT. IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT GOD WOULD BE SILENT ON THE MOST IMPORTANT THING ON HIS HEART: PEOPLE. JOURNAL AND HEAR HIS COUNSEL ON YOUR RELATIONSHIPS.

22

THIS MAY SOUND STRANGE TO SOME. SOMETIMES, OUR JOURNALING WILL SEEM TO GO DRY. IT COULD SIMPLY BE A TIME TO “HANG OUT” WITH GOD. ENJOY HIS PRESENCE. LISTEN TO SOME GREAT MUSIC OR NOTICE SOMETHING ABOUT NATURE. HE SPEAKS THROUGH HIS ARTISTS AND HIS WORKS OF ART IN NATURE. AFTER A TIME LIKE THIS, YOU MAY SIMPLY WANT TO WRITE IN YOUR JOURNAL, “HAD FUN WITH GOD” AND LEAVE IT AT THAT!

23

IS IT BETTER TO HEAR GOD THROUGH JOURNALING ON A COMPUTER OR WITH AN OLD-FASHIONED PEN AND JOURNAL? BOTH ARE “COOL TOOLS.” BOOKS HAVE AN ANCIENT, ALMOST SACRED FEEL TO THEM. “VISUAL & MOTOR MEMORY” ARE THE ABILITY TO REMEMBER WHAT ONE SEES AND DOES AND THAT IS A GREAT ADVANTAGE OF USING A JOURNAL LIKE “THE KING’S FAVORITE BOOK.” USING JOURNALWITHGOD.COM AND OUR MOBILE APP HAS THE ADVANTAGE OF ORGANIZING BY CATEGORY, COPYING AND PASTING, SHARING, BEING ANYWHERE YOU ARE, PERHAPS EVEN WRITING MUCH FASTER. WHETHER THROUGH A PAPER JOURNAL, THE MAIN THING IS: DON’T MISS WHAT GOD IS SAYING TODAY...WRITE IT SOMEWHERE!!

24

IF ONE OF THE MAIN REASONS FOR JOURNALING IS TO HELP US REMEMBER, WOULD WE EVER HEAR GOD TELL US TO FORGET? NO, THIS IS NOT A BRAIN TEASER. THE ANSWER IS "YES." THE APOSTLE PAUL EXERCISED HIS MIND TO DELIBERATELY FORGET CERTAIN THINGS THAT WOULD PREVENT HIM FROM FOCUSING IN ON "PRESSING FORWARD." IF WE CONFESS AND REPENT OF OUR SINS, GOD HAS TOLD US THAT HE WILL FORGET OUR SINS AND REMEMBER THEM NO MORE. (HEBREWS 8:12)

25

CAN CHILDREN HEAR GOD? ABSOLUTELY. BIBLICALLY, WE KNOW THAT JESUS WAS AT A TENDER AGE WHEN HE BAFFLED THE ELDERS AT THE TEMPLE. (LUKE 2:46,47) THE PROPHET SAMUEL WAS ONLY A BOY WHEN HE HEARD A VERY IMPORTANT PROPHECY FOR THE ENTIRE NATION OF ISRAEL. (1 SAMUEL 3) AND ANYONE WHO HAS RAISED CHILDREN OR BEEN AROUND THEM CAN CONFIRM JESUS' WORDS: "YES; HAVE YOU NEVER READ, "OUT OF THE MOUTH OF INFANTS AND NURSING BABIES YOU [GOD] HAVE PREPARED PRAISE'?" MATTHEW 21:16 TEACH CHILDREN TO WRITE DOWN THINGS THEY BELIEVE THEY HEAR FROM GOD. IF THEY ARE TOO YOUNG, YOU CAN DO THAT FOR THEM OR THEY CAN DRAW OUT CONCEPTS.

26

IT'S IMPORTANT FOR CHILDREN, YOUNGSTERS AND YOUNG ADULTS TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD, PARTICULARLY THROUGH JOURNALING. THE REASON IS SIMPLE, THOUGH IT MAY INJURE THE PRIDE OF PARENTS AND ADULTS WHO HAVE KIDS UNDER THEIR CARE. PARENTS ARE HUMAN. AS SUCH, WE ARE NOT THE PERFECT REPRESENTATION OF GOD. SOMETIMES, THEY WILL HEAR MORE PERFECTLY IN A DIRECT CONVERSATION WITH GOD. THE HUGE CAVEAT IS THAT THEIR JOURNAL MUST LINE UP WITH GOD'S WORD AND NEVER BE AN IMPETUS FOR REBELLION. MOST TIMES, ACCURATE JOURNALING ON THEIR PART WILL CONCUR WITH GODLY PARENTAL DIRECTION EXCEPT IN THE CASES OF ABUSE OR RESOLUTE REBELLION ON THE PART OF PARENTS/GUARDIANS

27

GET KIDS IN THE HABIT OF TALKING WITH GOD. BETWEEN THE LEADERSHIP OF PARENTS/GUARDIANS AND THE COUNSEL OF BIBLE STUDY AND JOURNALING, THEY WILL LEARN TO LISTEN AND FOLLOW GODLY WAYS AS OPPOSED TO THE MISGUIDED ADVICE OF NEGATIVE PEER PRESSURE.

28

MUSIC IS OFTEN A GATEWAY TO THE SOUL. IT'S LIKE A GOOD BACK MASSAGE. IT SOFTENS US UP FOR HEALING. THERE IS POSITIVE MUSIC TOWARD THIS END AND THERE IS NEGATIVE MUSIC. OFTEN, INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC SOOTHES MY HEART AND PROACTIVELY MOVES ME CLOSER TO GOD.

29

**CAN THE PHYSICAL-
LY-CHALLENGED, EL-
DERLY, FRAIL AND HAND-
ICAPPED HEAR GOD?
OH, YES! THEY MAY NEED
A HAND. YOURS MAY BE
THAT HAND!**

30

READ OR RE-READ THE KING'S FAVORITE BOOK OR REVIEW THE VIDEO. GOD LOVES TO HEAR FROM YOU AND THIS SIMPLE PARABLE WILL HELP YOU REMEMBER THAT; ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU NEED IT MOST.

31

**SHARE APPROPRIATE
PARTS OF YOUR JOURNAL
IF IT WILL SPIRITUALLY
BUILD SOMEONE UP: “AND
LET US CONSIDER HOW WE
MAY SPUR ONE ANOTHER ON
TOWARD LOVE AND GOOD
DEEDS...” HEBREWS 10:24**