



# Hearing God

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## FULLNESS

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*"The Spirit Himself testifies to our spirit that we are children of God." Romans 8:16*

"We show how little we love God by preferring to listen to His servants only. We like to listen to personal testimonies, but we do not desire that God Himself should speak to us. Why are we so terrified lest God should speak to us? Because we know that if God does speak, either the thing must be done or we must tell God we will not obey Him." ~ Oswald Chambers, *My Utmost for His Highest*, February 12th.

There is perhaps nothing more important in the Christian life than to be able to discern God's voice and to confidently know what He is saying to you.

"If you do not know how to recognize the voice of God, you are in trouble at the heart of your Christian life." ~ Henry Blackaby

### 1. How God Speaks -- *by His Spirit*

*"The Spirit Himself testifies"* Romans 8:16

God speaks through many means -- the Bible, people, circumstances, prayer, and spiritual gifts -- but He always speaks by the Holy Spirit.

*"The Holy Spirit said, 'set apart for me Barnabas and Saul.'" Acts 13:3*

There is a categorical difference between revelation and projection as well as our intuition; projection starts with us and revelation starts with God. To confuse the two is a lethal mistake. We don't dare call our projection a word from God--this is the definition of a false prophet.

### 2. How we hear God -- *in our spirit*

*"The Spirit Himself testifies to our spirit"* Romans 8:16

#### **7 Primary Ways God Speaks**

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|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Bible verse             | 4. An internal voice | 6. Circumstances     |
| 2. A prophetic word        | 5. Angels            | 7. Dreams or visions |
| 3. Friends, family, people |                      |                      |

*"My sheep hear my voice and I know them and they follow me."* John 10:17

"The Bible was not written to put an end to further revelation; it was written to help us accurately discern and judge it." ~ R.T. Kendall

### 3. Who can hear Him -- *children of God*

*" children of God."* Romans 8:16

*"A word from God does not lead you to an encounter with God; it is an encounter with God."* ~ Henry Blackaby

God can speak to us at any time and He does, because He is an initiator and because He wants a relationship with us, but He speaks most often when we seek Him.

*"God the Holy Ghost writes our prayers, God the Son presents our prayers, and God the Father accepts our prayers. And with the whole Trinity to help us in it, what cannot prayer perform?"* ~ Charles H. Spurgeon, *Spurgeon at His Best*, pg. 145-146

### 4. What does He say -- *that we are children of God*

*"The Spirit Himself testifies to our spirit that we are children of God."* Romans 8:16

*"For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, 'Abba! Father!'"* Romans 8:15

*" and if children, then heirs--heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ."* Romans 8:17

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