Hearing God: You Can Hear God Speak Pastor Johnson Bowie March 7, 2021

"The one who does not expect God to speak will discount every single time when God does speak." – A.W. Tozer

"There is not in the world a kind of life more sweet and delightful than that of a continual conversation with God. Those only can comprehend it who practice and experience it." – *Brother Lawrence*

God's voice isn't something to **retreat from** but something to **run** toward!

Hearing God

1) We were made to hear God's voice.

John 10:2-5, 27 NIV

The one who enters by the gate is the **shepherd** of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him **because they know HIS VOICE**. But **they will never follow a STRANGER**; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice... **My sheep listen to my voice**; I know them, and they follow me.

Matthew 7:24-25 NIV

Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

Ephesians 4:14 NIV

Then we will no longer be **infants**, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by **every wind of teaching** and by the **cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming**.

If you aren't listening to GOD'S VOICE, you will listen to A VOICE.

Hebrews 4:16 NLT

So let us come **boldly** to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.

Hearing God

2) We learn to hear God's voice.

Psalm 46:10 NIV

He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

I have to **REPOSITION** so I can get better **RECEPTION**.

Hearing God

3) We hear God's voice in the Bible.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 NIV

All Scripture is **God-breathed** and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

"The written Word is the wire along which the voice of God will certainly come to you if the heart is hushed and the attention fixed." – F.B. Meyer

Hebrews 4:12 NIV

For the word of God *[logos]* is **alive** and **active**. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Too often we don't read the Bible to **LISTEN** to God; we read the Bible to **LEARN** information.

Colossians 1:9-14 NLT

We have not stopped praying for you since we first heard about you. We ask God to give you complete knowledge of his will and to give you spiritual wisdom and understanding. Then the way you live will always honor and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, you will grow as you learn to know God better and better. We also pray that you will be strengthened with all his glorious power so you will have all the endurance and patience you need. May you be filled with joy, always thanking the Father. He has enabled you to share in the inheritance that belongs to his people, who live in the light. For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son, who purchased our freedom and forgave our sins.