

The background is a complex, abstract geometric pattern composed of numerous overlapping, irregular shapes and lines in various colors including blue, orange, green, red, and purple. The lines are thin and black, creating a dense, intricate web of shapes.

# Hearing from God

*Values, Voices, and  
Verdicts*







# **Growing Storm of Concern**





# Values

What is the heart that God speaks to?

A broken and  
contrite heart.  
**Psalm 51:17**

1

A heart that  
worships Him in  
spirit and in truth.  
**John 4:23-24**

2

A heart of humility.  
**James 4:6**  
**1 Peter 5:5-6**

3

A heart of  
obedience.  
**James 1:22-23**

4



# Voices

What are the means by which God speaks?

**His Word**

1



I find it ironic that the people complaining about never hearing from God rarely open their Bibles.

**TIM KELLER**



# Voices

What are the means by which God speaks?

**His Word**

1

**God's Spirit**

2

**Prophet, priest,  
teacher, etc.**

3

**Brother / Sister in  
Christ**

4

**Family / Friends**

5

**Nature**

6

**Dreams and  
Visions**

7

**Someone/something  
from outside**

8



# Verdicts

How should we evaluate what we think God is telling us?

**Does it violate any known, clear commands of the Bible?**

1

**Does it advance / build up the Kingdom of God in the mind and hearts of people?**

2

**Does it result in the fruit of God's Spirit in life?**

3

**After praying about it, what do I think / feel?**

4

**What do other strong believers think about it?**

5

**What are my motives around this area?**

6

**How is my flesh responding to this?**

7



# No Brainers!

There are some things that you really don't need to wonder if they are God's will or not. He has made them clear to us. Some examples:

**Seeking to understand  
God's revealed will in  
the Bible.**

Ps. 119; 2 Tim. 3:16-17

1

**Being thankful and  
rejoicing.**

Phil. 4:4; 1 Th. 5:16-18

2

**Praying!**

1 Th. 5:16-18

3

**Serving others.**

Matt. 20:25-29; Heb.  
3:13; John 13:34-35

4

**Doing the next right  
thing...living  
sanctified.**

Micah 6:8; 1 Th. 4:3

5

**Stopping our worry!**

Prov. 3:5-6; Phil. 4:6-7

6



# Marks of Godly Dreams and Visions

Things to keep in mind.



## **Biblical Norms**

*As the Bible's writers show us, dreams and visions usually are given in special time of need or crisis. For example, when you need God's specific direction or encouragement. Many are especially for those who are proclaiming the gospel in new areas.*

*dream*



## **Biblical Caution**

*Godly dreams glorify God and help to encourage people to proclaim the gospel. They are not given to bring acclaim or glory to an individual. We should not allow ourselves to be manipulated by someone who says, "I received this word for you in a dream." We should listen, pray, and test the message for ourselves to confirm if it is from God.*



# Some actual examples:

Some of these are positive examples. Some negative. All are real.



1. Man...God told me I would marry her.

2. Married lady...God told me to divorce husband.

3. Prompted to give lump sum to a family in need

4. Morally compromised situation...





# Discussion

- *Of the values God looks for in our hearts, which is most evident in your life?*
- *Have you experienced hearing from God? Share about it if you are comfortable.*
- *What are some thoughts you have after today's lesson?*
- *If you could "hear from God" on one topic, what would it be? Why?*