

# Voice of God | Prayer

## Pastor Cameron Brice

### I. Prayer is meant to be a two way conversation with God.

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

1. When we ask, call to, or speak with God, we are promised that He will respond.

B. “He shall call upon me, and I will answer Him...” - Psalm 91:15

### II. How does He answer us?

A. “The Holy Spirit ... He will teach you all things and bring to remembrance all I have said to you.” - John 14:26

#### 1. God communicates with us by His Holy Spirit.

- a) How do we start a conversation with Holy Spirit?

### III. It starts with asking.

A. “If anyone lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach and is will be given him.” James 1:5

1. Sometimes our prayers are a little one-sided. We talk and talk and don't leave space for Holy Spirit to respond.

### IV. Like normal conversations, we must take time to listen!

A. You will seek the Lord ... and you will find Him ... return to the Lord your God and listen to His voice.” - Deuteronomy 4:29-31

1. Do we listen with our physical ears?

a) **While God can speak audibly, it is not normative.**

b) God communicates with us through our human spirit.

(1) “The human spirit is the lamp of the LORD that sheds light on one's inmost being.” - Proverbs 20:27 NIV

(a) The lamp here represents guidance.

(b) We see this as well in the teachings of Paul:

(2) “The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit...” - Romans 8:16a

**(a) Theologically this is referred to as the “inner witness” or the “inner voice”.**

V. How do we know that it is God’s voice speaking to us?

A. We filter what we hear with:

### **1. The word**

a) “With my whole heart I have sought You; Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments!” - Psalm 119:10 NKJV

(1) Our seeking Him will not lead us away from His commandments.

**(2) God will not contradict what He has already spoken.**

### **2. Humility**

a) “When pride comes, then comes shame; But with the humble *is* wisdom.” - Proverbs 11:2 NKJV

**(1) Don’t let pride make you think that you are infallible.**

### **3. Community**

a) “Where *there is* no counsel, the people fall; But in the multitude of counselors *there is* safety.” - Proverbs 11:14 NKJV

(1) Don’t be afraid to ask someone their thoughts about what you think you’re hearing.

(2) This brings SAFETY!

b) “A man who isolates himself seeks his own desire; He rages against all wise judgment. - Proverbs 18:1 NKJV

(1) If we seek to isolate ourselves and choose to hide what we are hearing from others we can be certain that we are seeking our desires, not God’s.

c) “For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us...”- Acts 15:28a

(1) The model given to us by the early church is to bring what we are hearing into the context of community.