

25 BIBLICAL WAYS
GOD SPEAKS



HEARING GOD

Three silver keys are hanging from the bottom of the word 'GOD'. The keys are arranged in a cluster, with one key pointing upwards and two pointing downwards. They are rendered with a metallic, reflective texture and are set against the dark blue background.

DAVID C. HAIRABEDIAN

Hearing
GOD
25 different Biblical ways

David C. Hairabedian

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Introduction

God, who at various times and in different ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds. Heb. 1:1-2, NKJV

Years ago, after reading a series of Christian books on the subject of faith, a sudden boldness came over me and I spoke out loud, "God, I want to teach your people faith!" Instantly God responded by speaking through the still small voice of the Holy Spirit into my spirit, "***I would much rather you teach them to hear my voice.***" His response took me by surprise! "Was faith not that important after all," I thought? This drove me to Scripture to further test the spirits on this word from the Lord. The more I studied the more I discovered how important faith is to God. This perplexed me. Why would God rather me teach His people to hear His voice than teach them faith? I studied more. Everything seemed to point to faith. ***In fact, I concluded that almost everything happens by faith and grace in God's Kingdom.*** "Without faith it is impossible to please God" (Hebrews 11:6). "Your faith has saved you" (Luke 7:50). "Your faith has healed you" (Luke 18:42). "Your faith has made you well" (Matthew 9:22). "The just shall live by faith" (Galatians 3:11). "According to your faith let it be to you" (Matthew

9:29). “Great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire” (Matthew 15:28). “We have the same spirit of faith” (2Cor. 4:13).

We’re “saved by grace, through faith” (Eph. 2:8-9). “We receive the promise of the Spirit through faith” (Galatians 3:14). “The righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith” (Romans 1:17), and so on. After reading these and other verses like them I wondered if I’d heard God correctly when He said, “I would much rather you teach My people to hear My Voice.” I pondered God’s statement for quite some time before finally understanding what He truly meant by this. God wasn’t nullifying the importance of faith. Just the opposite was the case. I just couldn’t see the forest for the trees yet. God was graciously showing me a **higher principle**, a principle for every one of us as God’s people in Christ. God was unveiling the source of all real faith. Let me share the secret of it with you.

Paul, a man of great faith said, “**faith comes by HEARING, and HEARING by the word of God**” (Romans 10:17 NKJV). Said another way, faith comes to us by hearing God’s voice. “Man shall not live by bread alone, but **by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God**” (Matthew 4:4). Is God still speaking today? “For I am the Lord, I do not change” (Malachi 3:6). “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever” (Hebrews 13:8). Jesus is our Shepherd (Jn. 10:2) and His sheep “hear his voice” (John 10:4, 27). Since Jesus is “the author and finisher of our faith” (Hebrews

12:2), the key to genuine faith is Jesus, keeping our eyes on Him and listening for His voice speaking to us. Because Jesus is “the word made flesh” (John 1:1; 14), the most common way faith comes to us is by reading the Bible, God’s written word recorded for us.

True faith comes when the Holy Spirit quickens (which means - highlights or otherwise illuminates) a verse, story or passage of Scripture to us while reading the written word of God (the Bible). Another way true faith fills our hearts is by hearing the voice of God speaking to us in a number of ***other Biblical ways***, such as dreams, visions, the still small voice of the Holy Spirit, messenger angels, etc. Remember Jesus said, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by ***every word*** that proceeds from the mouth of God” (Mt. 4:4).

As Christians our very lives are lived by what proceeds, and continues to proceed from the mouth of God. “For in Him we live and move and have our being” (Acts 17:28). Are you hearing His voice? Jesus said, “My sheep hear my voice” (Jn. 10:27). Are you one of His sheep? Or possibly you’re still just a baby lamb? If you’re not recognizing, hearing, heeding, and obeying the Shepherd’s voice yet I believe God is bringing encouragement today to help you grow up, from a lamb into a sheep, from a convert into a disciple.

The real Scriptural litmus test of spiritual maturity is this, recognizing God’s voice speaking

to us and obeying what he says. “...And His sheep follow him, for they know his voice” (Jn. 10:4). This is how we grow from converts into disciples, by being able to distinguish His voice from all the other voices of the world. How do we live the Christian life? “...By every word that proceeds (and continues to proceed) from God’s mouth” (Mt. 4:4).

The Key for Every Miracle

Genuine faith for every miracle comes through hearing and obeying whatever Jesus tells us to do. In fact, the very key to unleashing the miraculous is found in the story of Jesus turning water to wine. Mary told the servants, **“Whatever Jesus says to you, do it”** (John 2:5, NKJV). Jesus said to them, **“‘Fill the water pots with water.’ And they filled them up to the brim”** (v. 7). Then Jesus gave them a second instruction, **“And He said to them, ‘Draw some out now, and take it to the master of the feast.’ And they took it”** (v. 8). After obeying both instructions, it released a miracle, turning water to wine. When the master of the feast tasted the water made into wine he declared, **“You have kept the good wine until now.”** This is the key that unleashes the miraculous. ***Doing whatever Jesus tells us to do.*** Have you been hearing and obeying His instructions to you? Let me give one more illustration...

Why did Peter have faith to walk on water? Because **he heard** Jesus speaking. **“Peter answered Him and said, ‘Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.’ So Jesus said, ‘Come!’ And when Peter had come down out of the boat, *he walked on the water to go to Jesus*”** (Matthew 14:28-29, NKJV). Faith to walk on water came to Peter from hearing the Master speak. **“Faith comes by hearing”** (Romans 10:17). ***Faith to continue to walk on the water***

remained intact as long as Peter kept his eyes on Jesus. When Peter took his eyes off Jesus his focus changed from the supernatural to the natural circumstances and he sunk! “But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, ‘Lord, save me’” (v. 30). The same is true today. Faith initially comes by hearing God speak. This faith is sustained by keeping our eyes on the Sea Walker in the midst of life’s storms to the contrary.

How Does Jesus Speak Today?

How does Jesus speak today? God speaks to us through the agent of the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity. Before Jesus' went to the Cross He prophesied, "When He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for **He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come**" (John 16:13, NKJV).

Since the source of all true faith comes from hearing God's voice, and the Spirit of Truth is the same Holy Spirit that lives within every Christian, then we can **all** hear the voice of God today. "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me" (John 10:27, NKJV). Are you ready to learn how to hear His voice? If so, read on.

The most common way in which God speaks to us is through the Written Word, the Bible. This occurs about 90 percent of the time. If you're not already daily reading the Bible, I encourage you to begin today. This helps better position us to hear God's voice speaking to us through His infallible written Word. While reading and studying the Holy Spirit will then **illuminate** or **quicken** a specific verse or passage, causing it to literally lift off the page to us. This usually indicates God is trying to communicate with us.

Have you been listening? Most Christians have experienced God speaking to them, whether young or mature, whether lambs or sheep.

Possibly you've experienced something like this while reading the Bible alone or at a Bible study, but didn't recognize until now that this quickening was the Holy Spirit speaking to you. When we learn to hear His voice quickening us through the written Word, He will also begin speaking to us in a number of other Biblical ways. As we are faithful with a few things, God is faithful to give us more as He carries us from faith to faith and from glory to glory as He changes us into the image and character of His Son (2Cor. 3:17-18). Being changed into the image of Jesus is the Father's desire, this comes by faith, and faith comes by hearing God speak and then obeying what He is saying to us in that hour.

For more information on the subject of obedience, write HEART and ask for our free teaching, "Obedience - Kingdom Currency".

The Bible indicates the Holy Spirit also communicates the mind and heart of the Father through **at least twenty-five other ways**. Often, we talk to God in prayer, telling Him all of our problems and needs, and this is certainly good.

But true faith has two sides, faith and patience. "...Imitate those who through **faith** and **patience** inherit the promises" (Hebrews 6:12). This being said, true prayer involves not only talking to God but also listening to Him.

Sadly, we rarely stay around long enough to hear Him speak back. The Bible says, "Be still and know that I am God" (Psalms 46:10). Are you

obeying the written word and getting still before the Lord? If not, this may be the hindrance to hearing Him speak. As you study the following 25 ways in which God speaks I believe God will reveal two things: (1) that He has **already** been speaking to you, and (2) that He desires to speak to you more and more so the two of you can more deeply develop your relationship with each other. “Can two walk together except they are in agreement” (Amos 3:3)? I believe God wants to bring us into **agreement** with Heaven’s will—so we can effectively release God’s will into the earth. “His will is that none perish, but all come unto repentance” (2Peter 3:9). Do you want to know His will? Do you want to be able to hear His voice to release Heaven plans and purposes into the earth? If so, let’s pray together now.

Father, I desire to learn how to hear, understand and obey your voice. You say that your sheep hear your voice. By faith in Jesus

Christ I am one of your sheep. I desire to grow from faith to faith so I can be changed from glory to glory into the image and likeness of Jesus. I want to be able to effectively pray your will into the earth so that none will perish, but all will come unto the saving knowledge of the truth. I ask you now to begin tuning my spiritual ears to hear your voice above all the other voices of the world. I want to develop from a lamb into a mature sheep. Take me to the next growth level in my walk with you. I desire to learn how to go from the milk of the word to “strong meat” from your Hand.

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Because your Word says you are no respecter of persons and you show no partiality, I fully expect to begin hearing your voice regularly, from this day forward, in Jesus' Mighty Name.

Amen.

7 Reasons We Don't Hear God Speaking (With Scriptural Cures for Each)

The Bible indicates there are several reasons for not hearing God speak.

These can also hinder or distort our God-given ability to hear His voice accurately. These are fairly evident and self-explanatory. For additional study refer to listed Scriptures.

1. Unrepentant Sin

Surely the arm of the LORD is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear. But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear. Isaiah 59:1-2

The Cure is Repentance and Confession. (1John 1:9-10), (Psalm 51:1-19)

2. Unbelief

For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day. John 6:40

Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. 2 When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were

amazed. "Where did this man get these things?" they asked. "What's this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing? 3 Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. Mark. 6:1-3

The Cure is Repentance (1John 1:9-10) and asking God to "help our unbelief." (Mark 9:24)

3. Feelings of Unworthiness

The Cure is knowing the Truth. (Romans 8:1), (1John 3:20-21)

4. Unforgiveness

And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins. Mark 11:25

The Cure is forgiving. (Mark 11:26), (Matthew 6:12)

5. Anger Towards God

The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those who are in the

*realm of the flesh cannot please God.
Romans 8:6-8*

The Cure is Repentance and asking God for His love in our hearts. (1John1:9-10; 4:19)

6. Fear

*Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD is kept safe.
Proverbs 29:25*

The Cure is Repentance and asking God for His love and faith in place of fear. (1John 4:17-18), (2Timothy 1:7), (2Corinthians 4:13)

7. Idolatry

Some of the elders of Israel came to me and sat down in front of me. Then the word of the LORD came to me: "Son of man, these men have set up idols in their hearts and put wicked stumbling blocks before their faces. Should I let them inquire of me at all? Therefore speak to them and tell them, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: When any of the Israelites set up idols in their hearts and put a wicked stumbling block before their faces and then go to a prophet, I the LORD will answer them myself in keeping with their great idolatry.

Ezekiel 14:1-4

...and all the ways that wickedness deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness.

2 Thessalonians 2:10-12

The Cure is Repentance and asking God to cleanse you from idols, hidden sin and secret faults. (see Psalm 19:12-13; Psalm 51:1-19).

25 Ways God Speaks Today

1. Quickenings of the Holy Spirit

(Psalms 119:25, 50,107 KJV) – The first and most common way God communicates to us is through His written Word. I believe this accounts for the highest percentage of God’s communication to His people. “This is my comfort in my affliction: **for thy word hath quickened me**” (v. 50). “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path” (v. 105). “**...Quicken thou me according to thy word**” (v. 25). The Holy Spirit is our Teacher. He “quicken” us through His Written Word. To quicken means to “**make alive, revive or bring to life.**” When we are faithful to read and study the Scriptures, the Holy Spirit is faithful to teach us. Whether lambs or sheep in our maturity level, the Holy Spirit meets us our own level and raises us to the next level, and the next and the next. While we grow in righteousness from faith to faith, none of us ever fully arrive in this life. The Christian walk is an ongoing growth process from glory to glory. We are always learning more. Because of this, the same verse of Scripture we’ve read a dozen times before will suddenly come alive as the Holy Spirit illuminates, teaches, convicts, or directs us to some sort of action. It may be something as simple as fasting. When we obey this prompting, God’s blessing will follow.

The Holy Spirit may have just convicted you while reading this last sentence. If so, this is likely God's voice calling you to a fast. Stop here and ask him how long He wants you to fast and for what reason. Then do whatever He says.

Always remember, the primary way in which God speaks to His childrens through the quickening of His written Word. All the other ways in which God speaks will come into alignment with His Written Word. Even when Jesus, our example, spoke to the disciples on the road to Emmaus shortly after His resurrection from the dead, **He quickened the Written Word** to their hearts. "And they said to one another, 'Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us'" (Luke 24:32, NKJV)? Once we are familiar with the written word — ***the standard for testing all other revelation*** — God will also begin speaking to us through a variety of other Scriptural ways to provide us with specific details for our lives and the lives of those around us. He might tell us a specific person to minister to and how to do it to bring them to Christ. Or, He might tell us who to marry, what house to buy, where or when to move, what stock to invest in, whom to do business with and who not to do business with, how much and where to give financially, what ministry, the timing and for what purpose. He may give us specific instruction on how to lay hands on a sick person to release Heaven's healing power, administer deliverance, or how to otherwise

effectively pray for someone. When God speaks such specific things, we can search the Written Word for confirmation. ***“By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error”*** (1John 4:6). With this foundation properly established, we now move on to the various other ways God speaks today.

Final Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for sending Jesus to speak to us 2,000 years ago. Jesus, thank you for sending the Holy Spirit to guide us personally, into all truth so that we might be changed into the image and likeness of the Son of God. Holy Spirit, tune the ears of my spirit to hear you when you speak whatever you hear from Jesus. I ask you to make it so clear that not even a fool can misunderstand. I thank you for telling and showing me the things to come, as Jesus promises you will. Today, I ask you to enroll me in the School of the Holy Spirit that I may learn to hear and obey the voice of God. I ask this in Jesus' Mighty Name. Amen.

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