

# Hearing From God Pt. 1

Why God speak to us.

*John 10:27 "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:"*

## **Guided Growth with Pastor Keith at CBC Sunday, July 25<sup>th</sup>**

We've been discussing how we can better "Recognize" and "Respond" to God as He Guides and Grows us. 1 Jn. 1:7 *"If we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another."*

**Fellowship (koinonia) means "Fellowship, Communion, Partnership!"**

We're all created (and called) on purpose, and for specific purposes! Rev. 4:11 *"for thy pleasure (Thel'ema: purposes) they are and were created."* (See also 1 Cor 3:9 and Mt. 11:28,29)

The Bible records various ways God has communicated His plans and purposes to His people.

(Heb 1:1) *"God in sundry ways and divers manners spake in times past... Hath...spoken unto us by His Son!"*

Does God still speak to His people? Does He still have anything to say to us? God knew some of His people would have "heart problems" and would either: Not recognize His voice or Not Respond (obediently) to it. (Ps 95:7-8; Heb. 3:7,15; 4:7; Rev. 2:7, 11,17,29; 3:6,13,22)

## **Why does God Speak to us?**

**Because communion without Communication is impossible!**

### **1. God Speaks to Reveal Himself! (His Person) Heb. 1:1-3; Jn 1:1-14**

**A. God wants us to know Him! Jn 17:3,4 *"This is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent."***

1) When God spoke, He usually began by revealing some dimension of Himself. ("I am the Lord..." found 164 times)

a) To an anxious Abraham: Gen. 15:1 *"I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward."*

Gen 17:1 *"I am the Almighty God; (el shadday) walk before me, (pânîym: presence) and be thou perfect."* (Tāmîm': sincere, entire)

b) To a murmuring Moses: Ex. 3:14 *"God said unto Moses 'I AM THAT I AM! Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.'"*

c) To an "Ill" Israel: (Exo 15:26) *"I am the LORD that healeth thee."*

2) This allows us to come to know God better so we can love & Trust Him more.

Pr 18:10 *"The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe."*

**B. This becomes the basis of our Faith (Who we're working for!) 2 Kngs 6:16**

### **2. God Speaks to reveal His Purposes ! Jer 29:11-14**

**A. God's "ways" are not our natural ways. Is. 55:8**

1) That's why we need to place His Revelation over our limited "Reasoning". Isaiah 55:7 *Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."*

**B. When God spoke, it was usually followed by some specific directions.**

➤ **Abraham: Gen. 12:1** *"go to a land that I will show thee of."*

➤ **Moses: Ex. 3:10** *"I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt."*

➤ **Gideon: Judges 6:14** *"And the LORD said, Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee?"*

- 1) This allows us to understand enough of God's will so we can make the necessary Adjustments to cooperate (partner) with Him. Mt. 16:24
- 2) God doesn't "speak" for our entertainment, but for our "Equipping" for service. (See Eph. 4:1,12)

C. This becomes the basis of our Focus. (Who we're working "WITH")

1 Kgs 17:1 "*Elijah ...said unto Ahab, As the LORD God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.*"

1 Cor. 3:9 "*We are laborers together with God!*"

### Conclusion:

Virtually everyone that heard from God recognized:

- 1) Who they were speaking to!
- 2) What was expected of them!

Jesus closed his "Sermon on the Mount" in Matthew 7:24-27 with this closing:

*"Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:...26 every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: 27 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it. "*

### Application:

How will you respond when our Shepherd speaks to you? John 10:27

*"My sheep hear my voice, And I know them, And they follow me!"*

- 1) Will you learn to "Hear His voice"?
- 2) Will you choose to "Follow him"?
- 3) Will you make the adjustments necessary to partner with Him?

Amos 3:3 "*Can two walk together, except they be agreed?*" (See 1 Jn 1:6-10)

Psalm 95:7,8  
*"He is our God;  
 and we are the people  
 of his pasture,  
 and the sheep of his hand.  
 To day if ye will  
 hear his voice,  
 Harden not your heart"*

