

September 15 - Speaker - Dave Solmes  
Title: Together, Hearing God

**Question:** Would you agree that hearing from God is the Number 1 influencer that determines how a person, a Christian community, and a church experiences the presence of God and lives out their most fruitful life?

**Part #1: Why is so important that we hear from God ?**

**A. Evidence that a person is a Child of God**

John 10:27 - My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

Proverbs 7:24 - So listen to me, my sons, and pay attention to my words.

There are a variety of ways that we HEAR FROM GOD ..

- Through the reading of the Word of God
- Through conversation with other Christ followers
- Through nature
- Through the Gifts of the Spirit
- Through good Christian books + thought provoking literature
- Through rest and sabbath
- Through simple actions of love and good deeds
- Through times of worship
- Through dreams & visions

**B. Answers our questions + protects you and I from mistakes**

Proverbs 8:6 - Listen to me! For I have important things to tell you. Everything I say is right.

So God speaks to tell us to confirming our way or correcting along the way ..

**Question:** What type of mistakes could someone make if they don't regularly hear from God?

### **C. Is a key to a most godly productive life**

Proverbs 15:32 If you reject discipline, you only harm yourself; but if you listen to correction, you grow in understanding.

There is nothing that will determine your future more than your ability to hear from God. Maturity in any area does not necessarily come with age. Certainly, someone's determination and ability to hear from God is not a matter of human age. It is an entirely a matter of spiritual alignment and then maturity.

### **Read the Story of Samuel - 1 Samuel 1-3**

**Question:** Why was it important for Samuel to pray, "Speak Lord, your servant is listening".

This opened up the airwaves and God speaks and speaks and speaks. It may not have happened if Samuel never spoke those words. This act of submission began for Samuel's an intimate journey with God &&&& Good and greater things happened in and through his life from that day forward. Hearing from God is not an event it is a to be a way of godly life.

1 Samuel 3:19 - 21 - As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him, and everything Samuel said proved to be reliable. And all Israel, from Dan in the north to Beersheba in the south, knew that Samuel was confirmed as a prophet of the Lord. The Lord continued to appear at Shiloh and gave messages to Samuel there at the Tabernacle.

### **Part #2: How do we grow Together: Hearing God?**

**A. You and I must believe that God cares about all the details of our lives. Everything.**

God made you to love you. God's love is based on His character not our conduct. He will never love you more than He does today. Nothing you and I will do or don't do will ever change this. God loves you and pays attention .. We can't compartmentalize things ... all details of our lives He cares about ..... all day and everyday ...

## **B. You and I must believe that God wants to talk to you about every detail of your life**

*If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking. But when you ask him, be sure that your faith is in God alone. Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind. Such people should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Their loyalty is divided between God and the world, and they are unstable in everything they do. James 1:5-8*

Question - At some point we all must ask ourselves a pretty important question .....

Question - How involved will you allow God to get involved in your life?

How do we know it is God speaking to you?

- Is it consistent with the Bible?
- Will It make me more like Christ?
- Does my church family confirm it /Can I find others to agree with me ...
- Is it consistent with how God shaped me?
- Is it convicting rather than condemning?
- Do I feel a peace about it ?

## **C. God has given you and the Family of God to guard and guide us**

1 Corinthians 14:26 Well, my brothers and sisters, let's summarize. When you meet together, one will sing, another will teach, another will tell some special revelation God has given, one will speak in tongues, and another will interpret what is said. But everything that is done must strengthen all of you.

In the Old Testament: In book of Exodus, Moses, went up Mt. Sinai to hear from God and to come back down the mountain to tell everybody what God said.

In the New Testament - Each one has a role to play and responsibility for the pursuing of the health, growth, and maturing of one another and furthermore, for this larger community - "Jesus church".

We don't go to church - we are the church .. called together to function as a hearing people .. It is not about attending church it is about all of us tending to the needs of our church. Load sharing ...

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