

God Only Speaks to the Godly

Series: "Fan Fiction", Part 4 of 5

Sunday, July 24, 2022 at 9:00 & 11:00 AM

Tim Kong

Big Idea: Hearing from God has more to do with your availability than your ability.

Are you in a position to listen?

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

1 Samuel 3:2-10 NIV, "One night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place. The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the house of the Lord, where the ark of God was. Then the Lord called Samuel. Samuel answered, "Here I am." And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." But Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." So he went and lay down. Again the Lord called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." "My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord: The word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. A third time the Lord called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." Then Eli realized that the Lord was calling the boy. So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. The Lord came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening.'"

Ephesians 3:20 NIV, "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us,"

1. Be Available to God's Word

2 Timothy 3:16-17 NIV, "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."

Colossians 3:16 NIV, "Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly."

Hebrews 4:12 NIV, "For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."

"I believe that this Bible is a living book, that God has given it to us and that we dare not add to it or take away from it. It is revelation. But revelation is not enough. There must be illumination before revelation can get to your soul. It isn't enough that I hold an inspired book in my hands. I must have an inspired heart" - A.W. Tozer, "God Still Speaks"

"When God speaks, He does not give new revelation about Himself that contradicts what He has already revealed in Scripture. Rather, God speaks to give application of His Word to specific circumstances in your life. When God speaks to you....He is applying to your life what He has already said in His Word" - Henry and Richard Blackaby (Hearing God's Voice)

2. Be Available to God's Guide

John 14:16-17 NIV, "And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you."

John 14:26-27 NIV, "But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

John 16:12-15 NIV, "'I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to

you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you.””

Romans 9:1 NIV, “I speak the truth in Christ—I am not lying, my conscience confirms it through the Holy Spirit—”

3. Be Available for God’s People

Ephesians 4:11-15, NIV, “So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.

4. Be Available to God’s Heart

Psalms 46:10a NIV, “Be still, and know that I am God;”

Be

Be still

Be still and know

Be still and know that I am God

Application Questions

1. **Does it agree with God's Word?** (2 Timothy 3:16)
2. **Does it edify, exhort, or console?** (1 Corinthians 14:3)
3. **Does it produce freedom or bondage?** (Romans 8:14-16)
4. **Does it produce life or death?** (2 Corinthians 3:6)

Speak, for your servant is listening