How to Listen to God

Hindrances to Hearing the Voice of God John 10:27-30

Two kinds of listeners:

(Passive Listener and aggressive Listener).

Passive Listeners really don't care if they hear from God.

An <u>aggressive</u> listener comes knowing and expecting to hear from God. (Both Matthew 7:24-26, Acts 17:11)

Are you listening: (1 st Samuel 3:4-10)

We must learn to be quite before the Lord (Psalm 46:10, Psalm 62:5) We must anticipate to hear Him speak (Jeremiah 33:3) We must learn how to sit patiently before God (Psalm 46:10) We must learn to meditate upon his Word (Psalm 1:2)

Ten ways God's voice can be hindered

- 1. We really don't know God (John 4:21-24)
- 2. A poor self image: We feel unworthy when we should not (Galatians 4:3-7)
- 3. Love of the world (2Timothy 4:10)
- 4. Sin (Hebrews 12:1)
- 5. Unbelief: God doesn't just speak through his word
 - a) His Spirit
 - b) Circumstances
 - C) Other people (Matthew 1 :21-24)
- 6. Anger directed at God: Why God allow some things to happen to us?
 - a) Tragedy
 - b) Disappointment
 - C) Unanswered prayer

(Jonah 4:14)

- 7. Harboring Sin: Sinning and refusing to repent (Romans 6:14-15)
- 8. A rebellious Spirit: Not wanting to follow the command of God's voice. (Numbers 23:25-26)

9. Rejecting God's messengers: When we refuse to hear others, we can refuse to hear God.

(Luke 1:18-20)

- 10. Untrained to listen: Inexperience to the voice of God
 - a) We should ask questions
 - b) We should anticipate his voice
 - C) We should respond to what we hear (This is the beginning of the learning process)
 - d) We should be alert to confirming events
 - e) We should always ask God to speak to us that we may come to him better.

A Spiritual Mind Set

(Matthew 13:1-9)

- a) A closed mind
- b) Cloudy mind
- c) Cluttered mind
- d) Committed mind (1 st Corinthians 7:37)