

How to Listen to God
Part 1
By Reverend Joffre Swinney

When we fail to listen to God we will often listen to the wrong voice. ([Genesis 2:15-17](#))

When we fail to listen to God we make excuses for our wrong. ([Genesis 3:8-9](#))

When we fail to listen to God we suffer consequences. ([Genesis 3:14-15](#))

When we fail to listen to God we hurt others. (Adam & Eve cursed the entire human race)

When we fail to listen to God we miss God's very best. (Moses, [Deuteronomy 32:48-52](#))

- 1) How does God speak to His people today, after he has said all we need to know through his word from Genesis to Revelation?

Why does God speak?

- a) First: He desires to fellowship with us. Just as well as he did in the Old Testament days.
[1 John 3:1-3](#) ([John 15:7](#), [John 17:20-23](#))
- b) Second: How could we have a fellowship with him if there is no communication between the two? ([Amos 3:1-2](#))
- c) Third: God know that we need the comfort and assurance he has to provide for his own. ([Isaiah 51:11-12, 15,16](#)) ([Romans 15:4-6](#))

****We have our own Red Sea experiences. We undergo failures****

*****The most important reason God is still talking today is that he wants us to know him. *****

- 2) If God is still talking, how does he speak?

First: How did he speak in the Old Testament?

- a) He spoke by divine revelation ([Genesis 12:1-2](#)).
- b) He spoke through dreams ([Daniel 7:1-3](#))
- c) He spoke through his written word (The Ten Commandments). The Law to communicate to his people ([Exodus 20](#)).

Second: How did he speak in New Testament Era /Bible days?

- a) He spoke through Angles ([Luke 1:26-28](#))
- b) He spoke to Saul of Tarsus ([Acts 9:1-4](#)).

How does God speak today?

*****Through the Word of God! *****

God's Word was written to the people addressed in scripture. The scriptures were also written for us. [2 Timothy 3:16](#))

The Bible is our way of communication with God and God to us. It also can be our instruction guide for life. ([Joshua 1:7-8](#))

The Holy Spirit....without him we cannot sense the channel of communication to God. ([Romans 8:26](#))

Other people ([Acts 10:17-22](#))

Circumstances ([Psalms 51:1-4](#))

So today God Speaks to us in four primary ways:

His Word

His Spirit

His People

Our circumstances

Identifying the Voice of God

(Matthew 16:21-22)

There is a difference between the voice of God and Satan.

How can we know for sure that it is God's voice we hear?

(John 10:27)

- 1. Consistent with the Word!**
If we neglect the Word of God, Satan can too easily deceive us.
(The voice of God will never violate the scripture)
- 2. Conflict with Human wisdom.**
What we may think is wise to us, may not be to God!
(Isaiah 55:8)
- 3. Challenge to Faith: God challenges our faith to build our relationship with Him.**
(Mark 9:23-24)
- 4. Clash with the fleshly nature.**
God speaks in such a way the pleases the Spirit of God within us and not the flesh.
(Romans 8 8-10)
- 5. An act of courage: Being bold for the Lord**
(Joshua 1:6-9)
- 6. Patience: God will never tell us to rush into anything blindly, but Satan will.**
(Psalms 27:14, 62:5)