

# Listening to God

## Study Questions

What is your first thought when someone says you need to listen to God? We have all heard that part of our devotion time needs to be a period of quiet, when we listen for God. “Be still and know that I am God”, from Psalm 46:10, is often quoted.

Most of us pray regularly. We know that God answers prayer and we trust Him to do so. He commands us to pray, and says He will answer prayers that are in His will. Is God, indeed, speaking to us? If so, how can we hear Him? How do we listen to God?

The scriptures repeatedly show us how God communicates with His people. Early in the Scriptures, God spoke directly to Abraham and Moses. Later, He sent prophets as His messengers. Christ, who certainly communicated to man as God, said that He would send the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, after He died. This One would teach us and remind us of all that Jesus had taught.

Clearly, God wants to and still does communicate with those who fear Him and love Him. Do we hear Him? Do we know how to discern His voice from any other voice? Before you start answering questions ask God to communicate with you as you search His word.

1. Describe a time when God clearly communicated with you. Recall what He said, the means He used, and why you believed it was God.

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2. Read Psalm 25:8-15 and answer the following questions.

A. What do these verses teach us that God will do and for whom?

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B. What clues do verses 10-11 give you regarding why God does these things?

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3. How did God communicate in the following passages?

A. Abraham: Genesis 12: 1-3

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B. Moses: Exodus 3:2-6

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C. Israel: Numbers 14:14

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D. Samson's mother: Judges 13:2-3

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E. Israel: Hosea 1:2

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F. Zerubbabel: Haggai 1:12-13

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G. Joseph: Matthew 1:20, 2:13

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H. Paralytic Man: Mark 2:3-5

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I. Paul: Acts 9:3-7

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J. Peter: 2 Peter 1:16-18

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4. There are differing opinions about how God speaks to us today. He may use His Word, other people, or our circumstances to communicate with us. How has He used these methods to communicate with you?

A. His Word:

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B. Other People:

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C. Circumstances:

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5. Is God using your present circumstances to communicate with you? This may include things like difficult financial times or some kind of blessing, marital problems or marital bliss, emotional upheaval, loneliness, new living situation or the loss of a job, etc.

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6. Read 1 Corinthians 2:9-10. What do these verses tell us that God will reveal to those who love Him?

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7. How does John 14:26 describe the role of the Holy Spirit?

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8. Read Romans 8:29. What is God's purpose for each one of His people?

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9. Read Matthew 5:16, 28:19 and 2 Corinthians 5:20. What do these verses teach that we are to do with the truths that are communicated to us?

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10. How does God get the attention of one who is not listening to Him speak in our time?

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11. The Bible demonstrates that God uses many different ways to get our attention.

A. How did God get the attention of the Magi in Matthew 2:2?

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B. How did God get Peter's attention (after Jesus had told him he would deny Him three times) in Matthew 26:74-75?

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C. How did God get Paul's attention in 2 Corinthians 12:7?

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D. How did God get Peter's attention in Galatians 2:11?

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E. How is God trying to get your attention today?

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12. Read these verses and list the reasons God says He may not be answering prayers.

A. Isaiah 59:2 \_\_\_\_\_

B. James 4:3 \_\_\_\_\_

C. 1 Peter 3:7 \_\_\_\_\_

D. 1 John 3:22 \_\_\_\_\_

E. 1 John 5:14 \_\_\_\_\_

13. Read Job 2: 9-10. How did Job respond to God when God had not answered His prayer to be delivered from the trials that had come into his life?

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14. How have you responded to unanswered prayers?

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