



Do You Get Unidentified Inner Promptings?

Speak, for Your servant hears. —1 Samuel 3:10

Huh, me receive UIPs.. do you really mean me?

It's a possibility! I do sometimes (and I'm just an ordinary-Joe), but in the Bible they're of course not called, "*Unidentified Inner Promptings*." That's one thing I really just love about being a Christian. I love the casual warm-hearted fellowship and friendship that I can enjoy with the Lord daily (as anyone can enjoy if they just come to Him on His terms). He still speaks to His children—how COOOOOOOL is that!

I'm so grateful for the needed inner guidance He gives me ..especially when it's time to fish for people. I never want to flub it with such an important moment (but I never want to let those feeling hold me back from sharing).

Jesus said, ***"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand"*** (Jn. 10:27-28, nkjv).

I still love the incident in the life of a young person named, Samuel, that is described in 1 Samuel 3. Do you remember the story? It was about a young boy's sincere response to the call of God: "***Speak, for Your servant hears***" (v.10) is what Sam said when he heard a UOP (an *unidentified outer prompting*—this was in Old Testament times). Like Samuel, each one of us needs to be willing to hear the voice of the Lord. Sam didn't even have a ministry until he heard and recognized God's voice. When you hear His voice, you will also have an opportunity to serve others. And we Christians get this opportunity to hear from the Lord in the midst of life's everyday activities, encounters, problems, times of solitude ...as we each take time away to pray, to listen and to study the Bible.

"Blessed indeed are those ears which listen not for the voice sounding without, but for the truth teaching inwardly. Blessed are the eyes that are shut to outward things but intent on things inward. Blessed are they who are glad to have time to spare for God, and who shake off all worldly hindrances. Consider these things, O my soul, and hear what the Lord your God speaks." —Thomas à Kempis

Yes, God wants to speak to us through His Word daily—to all who will get right with Him by faith, repentance and the blood of Jesus as they listen with their heart. But many people today only want to meet with, and hear from God as they go hear the alleged mighty preacher give them the Message (and we all should go hear some teachers and preachers regularly—not the posers who mix lies with truth). Many only want God to speak to them through healings, jerking about, miracles—signs and wonders, but the Lord

wants us all to meet with Him in prayerful Bible study, for He said, **“Lo, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of me”** (Ps. 40:7, kjv).

***By feeding on Your blessed Word, dear Lord, I will no longer weak and childish be;
And as I listen to Your Spirit’s voice, may Christlike love and grace be seen in me.***
—Hess

But what are U.I.P.s really like? Well... something like...

“Loved one, don’t go there”, “Son, don’t say that”, “Daughter, DO go there..right now”—these are specific or general directives from Him. You might say, *Trippy Kurt, is this like righteous extra sensory perception stuff; these U.I.P.s* (unidentified inner promptings)? They’re inner memos of compassion. We have “image” so to speak and animals do not (I didn’t say we are to live for our image. No; too much of that around!). But I mean we were made unique—the animals merely have instincts. We were made in the very image of God; designed to have two-way loving, meaningful relationship with Him. WE ARE **“FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE!”** That means much for us too (Psalm 139:1-14). Thanks Lord!

God communicates in my resurrected living human spirit. He guides me speaking to my spirit by His Holy Spirit—my spirit is the lamp of the Lord. The Bible tells us this, **“The spirit of a man is the lamp of the Lord, searching all the inner depths of his heart”** (Prov. 20:27).

This kind of communication doesn’t happen with our beloved pets or barnyard beasts. All these “hunches” that we feel, we can not quickly say they are coming from God per se. I don’t even call them intuitions, or ESP, or instincts, or hunches.

The Bible calls this a **“still small voice.”** Some of these divine communications to us believers could be called a *Word of Knowledge* (those are real facts you will get regarding your future, a situation or regarding another person future ..from the Lord apart from all your studying or hearing from your homies) or there’s also a *Word or Wisdom* (that would let a believer know what to do with the facts that God have him or her—this is extra know-how about the person’s present or future and how they should apply God’s Word – see [1 Cor. 12:8](#)). Of course all *Word of Knowledge* blessings are U.I.P.s, but not all U.I.P.s are *Word of Knowledge* blessings..or even *Word of Wisdom* blessings.

Anyways it is very important to hear from the Lord. Now do you remember reading about that soft voice in the Old Testament? It was a gentle blowing gust; “a soft rustling.” Do you remember reading about how God revealed Himself to Elijah? In Hebrew it’s a: “delicate whisper—the breath of a light whisper” (it’s a U.I.P. – no, I didn’t say a U.F.O.).

Today you know indeed that the noise, ruckus and blaring of our clamoring hectic covetous and busy society actually does work against us hearing from the Lord—hearing the soft whisper of our loving Maker who knows what’s best for each of us.

Listen, if we want to grow up spiritually, then we Christians must take time away (and pray all through the day). We can’t allow ourselves to be too busy to listen, to pray, to hear from God in the Bible. We must draw away to fast (on occasion) to first quiet our hearts—to quiet our inner spirit to hear clearly from the Lord ..so we can quickly obey Him. We don’t want to just hear to hear and then not do anything with what we hear from Him. He’ll

indeed show us His timing and way for every set of circumstances we will face.

The Apostle Paul certainly knew about U.I.P.s and spoke up about them.. ***“Now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that will happen to me there, except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that chains and tribulations await me. But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God”*** (Acts 20:22-24, nkjv).

Paul knew that bonds and afflictions—TROUBLES—lay ahead for him, but he was pretty tough and didn't give a flip about headaches. He simply wanted to finish strong and right with Jesus as Lord over every area of his life! He had peace and the joy of Jesus inside. He simply wanted to finish his course—his specific calling—in a manner that would bring the most glory and honor to his first-love faithful Companion. Don't you want to do that too? I sure do! I want to please Him in everything I do.

Maybe you remember the time listed in the book of Acts when Paul was in a wild and scary storm out at sea. He was on a ship with 276 other people and due to a Word of Knowledge (that's one of the gifts of the Spirit) that he received. He said of the future, ***“Men, I perceive that this voyage will end with disaster and much loss, not only of the cargo and ship, but also our lives”*** (Acts 27:10).

He had a U.I.P. there. He “perceived inside.” Yes, for lack of better English terms to use here, he simply “sensed”, “he knew deep in his knower” if you will ..that great loss was ahead for the ship that he was on. But fortunately because Jesus is merciful and He really loves people—because our God likes to give sinners a second chance at life, Paul also proclaimed that none of the people would perish.

The Bible then for the first time talks about surfing of all things ..and about how those passengers got to shore in this manner in Act 27:44. Check it out. It says, ***“and the rest, some on boards and some on parts of the ship...all escaped safely to land”*** (Oh come on, lighten up. I just threw that word “surfing” in there for fun because that's what it kind of looks like they did to reach the sandy shore safety).

Paul was one very educated dude if you will and due to this he could easily be in danger of becoming puffed up with pride which would of course cut off the grace flow to and through him. That is if he didn't keep his spiritual guard kept up right. But he had an important mission too. You also have a mission—have you discovered it in Jesus Christ?

But Paul hated the suffering he had—yes, God allowed him to have a thorn in flesh that bugged him a whole lot. What did he do about his thorn? He prayed about it multiple times and then received a “U.I.P.” Yeah, God responded to Paul's prayer offered in faith about this thing ...just like God will respond to the prayers of any born again child of faith.

And Paul described this experience saying, ***“Lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness’”*** (2 Cor. 12:7-9).

You know, sometimes God gets blamed for things He didn't do. Sometimes the devil does too (a lot of times by Christians who feel that he is "making them sin" when he never does that—we have a choice in the matter). And sometimes we fail to acknowledge God's powerful presence or give Him all the credit that He rightly deserves.

Think about it Christian, have you ever experienced a U.I.P. from the Holy Spirit before? That is way cool to hear His voice (and I'm not talking about those weirdoes who say they hear him audibly every few minutes or they see visions daily).

But Christian.. how would you explain those unidentified inner promptings you've had? They're unseen, but they are often not unfelt. They are subtle gentle things of your spiritual ears. They are mostly unheralded, even unmentioned inner promptings that we tend either to explain away or ignore altogether. But for the person who knows and walks with Jesus as Savior and Lord, there is indeed an undeniable presence within us.

He is the Holy Spirit and He still communicates with His own today. His mouth so to speak still works. It's because He has taken up permanent residence within us saints—yes, in each one of us sinners who are really ex-sinners (sure we're not perfect—we still stumble on occasion though we try not to, but God's grace keeps ministering to us).

He abides within, not simply to provide emotional stability, inner dynamic, spiritual assurance, divine guidance, and personal comfort, but to "speak to-our hearts" for the purpose of moving-us into practical helpful action.

What more does God's Word have to teach us regarding these unidentified inner promptings that play a role in our lives?

- *How this all works inside us* ([1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 nkjv links..](#) [Hebrews 4:12-13](#))

Here are some **biblical examples of inner promptings—then and now:**

In Old Testament times it was an "Unidentified Outer Prompting" and they corporately heard God speak, **"Out of heaven He let you hear His voice, that He might instruct you; on earth He showed you His great fire, and you heard His words out of the midst of the fire. And because He loved your fathers"** (Deut. 4:37).

- *In extreme loneliness and desperation* ([1 Kings 19:9-14](#))
- *In times of threatening fears* ([2 Kings 6:16-17](#); or reread [Acts 20:22-27](#))
- *When there is potential or present danger* ([Acts 27:10-11](#), [21-25](#))
- *During great sorrow and grief* ([Romans 8:22-27](#); [2 Corinthians 12:8-10](#))

Jesus said, **"He who enters by the door is the Shepherd of the sheep. To Him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear His voice; and He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. And when He brings out his own sheep, He goes before them; and the sheep follow Him, for they know His voice"** (Jn. 10:2-4). Today, I fear that many who think they are God's sheep really are not, but are goats. The Bible doesn't

say that goats hear His voice.

The Bible says, ***“Behold! My Servant whom I have chosen, My Beloved in whom My soul is well pleased! I will put My Spirit upon Him, and He will declare justice to the Gentiles. He will not quarrel nor cry out, Nor will anyone hear His voice in the streets”*** (Matt. 12:18-19).

God speaks to us through His marvelous creation. His power and majesty are inescapable if we would just pause to listen. Like the people of ancient Israel, let us respond, “Glory!” —Herb Vander Lugt

Have you ever observed a violent thunder storm in Texas? What a frightening experience—it will naturally get even a hard-hearted sinner to think about the Lord. I know that while out camping in the wilderness, I certainly have heard God speak to me. There is something about getting alone with God in a forest—how beautiful! In Romans 1:20, Paul spoke of God’s eternal unmatched power and how the Godhead could be experienced in the created world. He can still speak to people through nature.

And ***“Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: “Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, in the day of trial in the wilderness”*** (Heb. 3:7-8, nkjv). Are you ready to [get right with God](#) and receive some “UIPs” from Him?

Have Kurt’s fishing devos built you up any? Click [here](#) to let him know how God is helping you to conquer worry and doubt!

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