



Hearing The Lord's Voice Doesn't Have To Be Like ..Way Out There

"My sheep recognize my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them away from me, for my Father has given them to me, and He is more powerful than anyone else. So no one can take them from me." ~ Jesus, in John 10:27-29, nlt

How do you honestly feel about God speaking to others? You hear about it sometimes at work.. at school.. on the streets and maybe you are downright sick of hearing about it, because it seems way past due—yeah, high time that God speak to you personally. Maybe you've been burned before by people who are quick to say that this type of thing can still happen. Do ya think it could really happen for anyone? Why not?

Ok, so there are indeed a lot of so called Christians and even cultists out there, even as of late on TV etc, who have allegedly said some pretty whacko things in the name of *God told em to say it* ..even though what they said contradicted the Bible or went against His holy nature.

Do you feel slightly skeptical inside at times? Listen, them talkin' all stupid n stuff doesn't mean that "hearing from God" for real ..couldn't ever happen in your experience.

I know it is something of a cliché by now, but the Lord really does care about you, He wants to listen, fully hear you out, and speak with you about very important things ahead. He absolutely has an inconceivable plan for your life! He does know what's best for you and He really wants to meet you daily in His Word.

And I know how hard it is to wait—we're so prone to try and rush things at times. But when we hear the voice of the Lord (and I know that sounds so televangelist-churchy and all..), we've got to make sure that we respond in His timing and Way. Ecclesiastes 3:11 clearly tells us that ***"He has made everything beautiful in its time."***

It never hurts to receive godly counsel and check back with God to confirm that what you are hearing is right. My old pastor Greg Laurie gives great advice regarding prayer and hearing God's voice saying, "If your request is wrong, God says, 'No.' If the timing is wrong, God says, 'Slow.' If you are wrong, God says, 'Grow!' But if your request is right, the timing is right, and you are right, God says, 'Go!'" (see Matt)

"Then said I, Lo, I come in the volume of the book it is written of me, to do thy will, O God." ~Hebrews 10:7, kjv

"Whatever our need for guidance or protection, Jesus calls us to heed His voice and follow Him." ~David McCasland

"To Him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear His voice; and He calls His own sheep by name and leads them out." ~John 10:3

"When you hear the Shepherd's voice as He calls you, 'Come to Me,' In your life make Him your choice and a faithful follower be." ~Hess

"For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand. Today, if you will hear His voice: 'Do not harden your hearts, as in the rebellion, as in the day of trial in the wilderness, when your fathers tested Me; they tried Me, though they saw My work. For forty years I was grieved with that generation...'" ~Psalm 95:7-10

Shepherds in the days when Jesus was here walking on dirt, basically raised sheep out in the uplands of Judea where the land was very rocky, rough and hilly. There were several dangerous crags and crevices to be found ..places where the little lambs could fall into a ditch and get hurt.

Sometimes the flock would have to travel quite a distance to find green grassy slopes so they could chomp and munch out. Therefore the shepherd's task was up close and personal each day. He had to get to know the sheep of his flock and their particular quirks pretty well. His job was to make sure that they were always protected and nurtured out there where overly-skinny wild animals with sharp teeth were constantly seeking an occasion to leap out on and inhale one of these furry creatures.

The sheep didn't lead the shepherd around out there and a good shepherd wasn't harsh with em due to a lust for personal gain. He always led the sheep to where they needed to go with their Maker and best interests in mind.

You don't think He knew their nicknames and names and who their parents were? Of course he did. He made the names up as he went. I bet some were pretty funny too cuz sheep do funny things at times.

What I love is that the sheep would actually grow accustomed to the sound of the shepherd's voice.. to his whistle or call. Again, there were deep rocky ravines to be mindful of and more than likely near-starving wildlife close at hand especially in the night time.

Each shepherd had different inflections, tone, timber, voice cadence and when each one's sheep heard their particular leader call out, they'd followed after him because they were well trained to trust. Yup, their life depended upon this quick obedience. Real slow obedience or delay was basically disobedience and dangerous. But this was a close relationship that was basically based on the unique sound of the shepherd's voice ..which they each had come to rely upon.

Have you learned to trust the voice of your Shepherd yet? I think that about 90 percent of the time when I hear from God it is when I am reading the Bible. The Bible teaches us that the voice of Jesus means life for us. Perhaps you want abundant and eternal life now instead of the moldy one you've experienced thus far? Please make it your life goal starting today.. to hear and obey the voice of Jesus Christ!

Yup, for those who have ears to hear Jesus is the living Word of God who loves us, leads us and calls out to us. He has a very intelligent objective in this.

So how do feel about becoming the Father's unique gift to His beloved Son and being Christ's property for all eternity? He already bought you, ya know. Can't really lose with that sort of set up huh. Are you willing to give up your own way, lose yourself to Him and hear Christ's extremely lovely voice? You'll find that instead of becoming like a clone, you become more you than you've ever been before. Go for Him today! Nothing and no one can compare!

Perhaps you were raised in a church where you heard similar preachyness like mine before (not really tryin' to preach at cha though..), but you are now hanging out with so called progressive thinkers who feel they are educated beyond all such choir rubbish?

Deep down do you think that the ancient texts of the Scriptures (OT and NT) are relevant for today and could apply to the relational issues, real-life work hassles and economic problems that you and your friends are having to deal with in this Western world 21st century?

Man, do you ever get distracted when it's *get holy Bible n prayer time*? Perhaps you feel that prayer has somehow let you down before.. or maybe like God Himself has let you down?

Do you feel some level of trepidation to dig deeper into the Word of God all alone, because you have real work *that actually brings in results* when the rent is quickly coming due.

Maybe ya think that you might not be able to understand what you are reading or that you might end up getting hooked-up with some full blown wild-eyed kook who is on some hidden but destructive religious course?

Perhaps you think you might with time even end up getting lulled into it and kind of liking the Christian lifestyle along with such Bible memorizing and meditations... to a point where you end up getting all pushy-zealous with your longtime buds regarding church attendance n stuff ..when they've never been the types who'd really wanna go.

Or what if your friends started to call you a *praise the Lord born again* or a *Jesus Freak* due to your new found friendship with the Lord? Those might be the only friends you have right now and without em you're kind of a lonely type (God can replace em with real friends any day of the week). Yeah, what if you lost a bunch of friends and you were no longer considered cool anymore? How would that feel?

There seems to be a lot to consider when a person cracks open that leather bound Book huh. It's really a no-brainer when you count the cost and think about it a minute.

Have you heard a plethora of downer personal problems with Christians at Bible study groups or at church before, when you just wanted to be strong by choice and keep out of your own way towards success? When or if you've attended in the past, did you hear gobs of feelings, strange impressions, various opinions and dry commentary ..or maybe fuzzy leader explanations as to what God *was trying to say* or what the Bible passages meant to that specific leader? Were there some good questions offered there that made you dig for yourself and pray?

I want you to be assured inside that the Bible is God's revelation..not written to you but for you. We didn't live way back in history, but with Him first we can make history.

It is His Word—a personal, relevant, a sharp and powerful Message that you can apply with the ultimate aim of helping you to know and love Christ more. It's simple enough for a young child to understand and yet deep enough that a puffed up religious theologian could get more lost in it.

[Get in Jesus!](#) Get into His love letter and yes, let His letter get into you!

Have a prayer request or some questions about knowing God ..and how to properly walk in Jesus Christ? At fish4souls.org click "[Contact](#)" and let us know! Perhaps we can help. Follow.. [Facebook.com/ShareJesus](https://www.facebook.com/ShareJesus) or at [Twitter.com/kurttwsw](https://twitter.com/kurttwsw)

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