



THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD  
Living Faith Chapel, Calgary

Bible Study:

17<sup>th</sup> December 2013

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## Topic: Hearing From God

### Introduction

As we have emphasized earlier on, our theme for this month is an interesting topic. I dare say it is the panacea to any challenge that a Christian may face in life. To really show how important this is for a Christian and why each and every one of us must take this very seriously, let us look at **2 Kings 6:8-12**. King of Syria waged a war against Israel. Elisha's ability to hear the Syrian army's plan saved Israel and gave them victory. God revealed secrets of the ambush to Prophet Elisha. In **Daniel 2:1-19**, we saw again that the ability to hear from God can make all the difference between life and death. Again in **1 Sam. 23:1-2**, we saw example of David making inquiries of The Lord whether to go to war against the Philistines or not.

To hear from God, let us look at the following:

#### 1. Determination

You must show determination on your part to hear God speak to you. God could have been speaking to you and you are not paying attention to Him. In **Exodus 3:2**, God used the burning bush to attract the attention of Moses. The Psalmist says in **Psalms 63:1** "early in the morning will I seek thee." He was determined. I am sure there could be or there were obstacles to prevent him from rising up early to talk to God. David determined that God must hear him. For you to hear God speak to you, you must position yourself rightly. Of course God can still attract your attention if He wants to communicate with you.

#### 2. Ways God Speaks

- a) Vision – **Numbers 12:6; Daniel 2:19; Acts 2:17**
- b) Dreams – **Numbers 12:6; Joel 2:28**
- c) Mouth to mouth – **Numbers 12:8**
- d) Circumstances – **Acts 9:3-5**. Saul of Tarsus.

#### 3. What do you need to do to hear God speak?

Our God is not a talkative. He has likes and dislikes – You want me to speak to you, then you must know how address me or talk to me. If you keep on making me unhappy, the chances are high that I will likely give you the "silent treatment". It is my prayer that God will not give anyone of us the silent treatment.

- a) **Praise and Worship:** You must cultivate the habit of praising God with passion. The intensity of your praise and worship needs to be really high. We all like quoting the example of David. David knew how to praise and worship God.
- b) **You need to be obedient to God:** Until Abraham's obedience to God was complete; the bible did not record for us that God spoke to Abraham again before separation from Lot. **Gen.13:14**

- c) **Study the Word:** You need to set time aside to study the bible. You need to read your bible. God will use His word to speak to you.
- d) **Prayer:** You need to be a praying person. We have all agreed that prayer is one of the several ways to talk to God. If you don't talk to Him, how then do you want Him to talk back to you?

#### **4. Know when God is speaking to you**

I believe God is speaking to every one of us. I guess the challenge is "how do I know He is speaking to me?" We have said it before that we cannot put God in a strait jacket or box. The way He speaks to you may not be the way He speaks to me. This I guess one of the most important things we need to consider in this theme. Yet most us are always on the lookout for God to replicate the way He speaks to "Brother/Sister A" to us too. It does not work that way. God was speaking to Samuel but he does not know it. There is no magic to this, each person must find out how God speaks to him or her. By cultivating, developing and maintaining a very close relationship with God, you will begin to discern how God speaks to you. One barometer to use always and discern if what you are hearing is from God or not is **Jer. 29:11 "For I know the thoughts I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you an expected end."**

#### **Conclusion**

It is very desirable that each and every one of us work at hearing from God. Equally important is the need for every one of us to exercise patience and self-discipline in our Christian race. Our God is patient and longsuffering. We must learn to exercise these attributes to hear from God. We must move closer to God