

I am starting a series this morning to look at what is involved in hearing and knowing the voice of God. Over the next few weeks, we are going to look into the word of God and examine a few principles that will enable you to hear with confidence when God is speaking to you.

A few of those principles:

1. Does God speak to this generation? If so, who can hear?
2. Obedience – What does that have to do with hearing from God?
3. Revelation – What is that?
4. The Word and the Spirit.
5. Praying in the Spirit – What does that mean?
6. Focus, Expect, Hear and Receive.
7. The Keys to the Kingdom.

Today's word: God Speaks...can I hear?

- The word of God says...His sheep hear His voice! You have every right to hear as a child of God!

John 10:4 (NKJV)

4 And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.

John 10:27 (NKJV)

27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

Matthew 13:10-17 (NKJV) The purpose of parables:

10 And the disciples came and said to Him, "Why do You speak to them in parables?" 11 He answered and said to them, "Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. 12 For whoever has, to him more will be given, and he will have abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. 13 Therefore, I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. 14 And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says: 'Hearing you will hear and shall not understand, And seeing you will see and not perceive; 15 For the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes they have closed, Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, So that I should heal them.' 16 But blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear; 17 for assuredly, I say to you that many prophets and righteous men desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

Wow! Say this with me: "I am a child of God...I am His sheep and I can hear His voice!"

Write these four thoughts down:

- Everything in the Kingdom of God operates by Faith.
- You must believe that He (God) is speaking and He is speaking to you.
- You have to position yourself to hear.
- You need to expect that you are going to hear.

A Great Story:

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (NKJV)

1 Now the boy Samuel ministered to the Lord before Eli. And the word of the Lord was rare in those days; there was no widespread revelation. **2** And it came to pass at that time, while Eli was lying down in his place, and when his eyes had begun to grow so dim that he could not see, **3** and before the lamp of God went out in the tabernacle of the Lord where the ark of God was, and while Samuel was lying down, **4** that the Lord called Samuel. And he answered, "Here I am!" **5** So he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." And he said, "I did not call; lie down again." And he went and lay down. **6** Then the Lord called yet again, "Samuel!" So Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." He answered, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." **7** (Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, nor was the word of the Lord yet revealed to him.) **8** And the Lord called Samuel again the third time. So he arose and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you did call me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord had called the boy. **9** Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and it shall be, if He calls you, that you must say, 'Speak, Lord, for Your servant hears.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. **10** Now the Lord came and stood and called as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel answered, "Speak, for Your servant hears."

FOCUS...EXPECT...HEAR!