

When we begin to explore Hearing God, our two main anchor points are the Bible and the person who the Bible is about – God, Father-Son-Holy Spirit. Jesus is the ultimate revelation of God, He is the person who reveals what the Bible is about and how we relate to him. Failure to recognise these two key areas in knowing and learning God's voice will lead us into error. Therefore, it is of great importance that we know the heart and character of God's voice. If it is not leading us to be more like Jesus, if there is not the character of Jesus coming through and if what we hear is outside of what the Bible teaches, then we can safely say, it is not God speaking. In learning God's voice, is more about knowing who it is that is speaking, than just being able to hear.

When a person send's an email or letter, how does it influence the way we understand what is being communicated, based upon whether we know the sender or not?

Read Luke 24 v 13-32

In this post-resurrection account from Luke, we see at a key point that the two followers knew it was Jesus. In a moment, all of what he said and revealed to them came together and changed their lives.

Two of the disciples are walking to Emmaus. Jesus draws near but it says 'they were kept from recognising Him? (v 16)

1. What do you think it was that kept them from recognising who it was who had joined them?
2. Is there a time in my life when 'Jesus himself drew near? How did he speak? What did He say? Do the particular circumstances of that encounter reveal anything about my own predisposition when it comes to hearing God?

3. Why would Jesus have the two people recount events he already knew about?
4. Who had the men hoped Jesus would be? How did Jesus help them put the pieces together`?
5. Why did Jesus take the time to explain things from the Old Testament?
6. What is the significance of Jesus opening their eyes? What moments of revelation have we had in our lives, whereby God highlighted or spoke something? How did you respond?
7. Below is a list of some of the things that can stop us from recognising Jesus? or hearing what He has to say to us?

The World. Grief, Unbelief, Disappointment, Broken dreams, Materialism, Hidden resentment at God, Unforgiveness..... Can you think of anything else?

Is there anything that might be stopping you from being able to hear what Jesus is trying to say to you?

8. Take time to share testimonies of how you became followers of Jesus. At the end of each persons story go round the group saying ' The thing that story shows me about Jesus is...

Prayer Points

Pray for the families of Ralph Padgham and Peter Whitely as they mourn and arrange the funeral.

Please pray for Mel and Tom Spears at Guinebor II (G2) Hospital, near N'Djamena, and the pioneering medical work in Bardaï, in northern Chad. Pray as they juggle busy jobs at the hospital and family life with their daughters, that they would know God's leading and direction.

Sermon Notes

1. Closed expectations

Are we listening to Jesus ?

2. Reconnect Relationship

Jesus is listening to us!



BIBLE STUDY

January 8th 2023

Hearing God:

Hearing God in Jesus: Luke 24:13-32

'God spoke to me.' 'The Spirit spoke to my heart.' 'God revealed the idea to me.' Being close to God means communicating with him, and this communication is a two-way street—telling him what is on our hearts in prayer and hearing and understanding what he is saying to us. It is this second half of our conversation with God that is so important but that can also be so difficult. How do we hear his voice? How can we be sure that what we think we hear is not our own subconscious? What role does the Bible play? What does the Bible teach in how the Lord speaks to us? These are some of the areas we will be covering over this next series, as we seek to grow in our relationship with Jesus.

If you would like to join a Connect Group, please contact the church office 01424 730001