Hearing God: Week Two

Three reasons why you may not hear from God...

YOUR FLESH.

Galatians 5:16-24 (ESV) "16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. 19 Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, 21 envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24 And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires."

Luke 9:23 (ESV) "23 And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."

COMPETING VOICES.

"All Christians have a voice they turn to when the going gets tough & it seems as though God is not saying anything." -Nathan Finnochio

- **1 Samuel 28:6 (ESV)** "6 And when Saul inquired of the Lord, the Lord did not answer him, either by dreams, or by Urim, or by prophets."
- **1 Samuel 28:7 (ESV)** "7 Then Saul said to his servants, "Seek out for me a woman who is a medium, that I may go to her and inquire of her." And his servants said to him, "Behold, there is a medium at En-dor."

Psalm 40:1-2 (ESV) "1 I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry. 2 He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure."

YOU DON'T KNOW HOW HE SPEAKS.

He primarily speaks THROUGH HIS WORD! I heard the Lord speak to me TODAY because I read HIS VOICE IN HIS WORD. He can speak to your spirit inwardly. He can speak through His creation...through spiritual leadership.... The Lord can speak through your boss or your spouse or your kids....He can speak through life situations. A lot of times people think they can't hear from God because they can't hear Him audibly speak to them. No more believing the lie that God only speaks to everyone else....He wants to speak to YOU & has spoken to you many many times....you may just not have known it was Him.

So my encouragement to those who really may not know how the Lord speaks....keep showing up each week. Our hope for the remaining Sundays in this series to equip you to hear the voice of God as best we can. If you want more, grab the book we recommended... "Hearing God" by Nathan Finnochio.