

3) God _____ ... To _____ Who _____.

If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another counselor to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. ... Then Judas (not Judas Iscariot) said, “But, Lord, why do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world?” Jesus replied, “Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.” (John 14:15-17 & 22-23)

God Speaks

Two Vital Questions

1) _____ You ... _____?

Authentic Christians have strong relationships with the Lord—relationships that are renewed every day. ... Embarrassingly few Christians ever reach this level of authenticity; most Christians are just too busy. And the archenemy of authenticity is busyness. ... Any way you cut it, a key ingredient in authentic Christianity is time. Not leftover time, not throwaway time, but quality time. (Bill Hybels, *Too Busy Not To Pray*)

2) _____ You ... _____?

If you aren't willing to listen to everything God has to say, you eventually won't hear anything He has to say. (Mark Batterson, *Whisper*)

All passages, unless otherwise noted, are from the New International Version of the Bible. You can download the free YouVersion Bible app that includes the NIV translation at your favorite app store.

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Rooted

God Speaks

The Voice

Rooted

The Rhythm Of Relationship

Let me make a bold statement at the beginning of this book: Learning how to hear the voice of God is the solution to a thousand problems! It's also the key to discovering our destiny and fulfilling our potential. (Mark Batterson, *Whisper*)

God Speaks

Are You Listening?

1) _____ Is . . . _____.

Hearing God, Dallas Willard/Whisper, Mark Batterson

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. . . . The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. . . . No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made him known. (John 1:1, 14 & 18)

Authentic Christianity is not learning a set of doctrines and then stepping into cadence with people all marching the same way. It is not simply humanitarian service to the less fortunate. It is a walk—a supernatural walk with a living, dynamic, communicating God. Thus the heart and soul of the Christian life is learning to hear God's voice and developing the courage to do what he tells us to do. (Bill Hybels, *Too Busy Not To Pray*)

If a Christian does not know when God is speaking, he is in trouble at the heart of his Christian life. (Henry Blackaby, *Experiencing God*)

2) God _____ . . .

In A _____ Of _____.

The Insanity Of God, Nik Ripken

God doesn't need to speak out loud to get through to us. He can communicate straight into our minds. (Rooted, Week 3, Day 4)

⇒ The _____

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness. (2 Timothy 3:16)

If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. (John 8:31–32)

Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. (John 17:17)

⇒ The _____

If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another counselor to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. (John 14:15–17)

I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. . . . When he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. (John 16:7, 13)

Listening to God can be a bit mysterious. . . . Sometimes He speaks to us in the midst of activity - walking, jogging, gardening, hiking, etc. Regardless of what we are doing, if we sift out the noise of our lives, we can make room for His voice. But how can we be sure it is God speaking? We can know because thoughts will come into our minds that we know didn't come from us. They will be consistent with His Word and what He wants for us. Perhaps it is a prompting to do something, or a new perspective on a problem, or an answer to a question. God will make it known. Though He is mysterious, He also wants us to hear Him clearly.

As we spend time in His presence talking to Him, listening to Him, reading His Word and meditating on His principles, eventually we will grow to a place in our relationship with God that we recognize and understand what He is saying to us. Like John 10:3-4 says, "*The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep recognize his voice and come to him. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. After he has gathered his own flock, he walks ahead of them, and they follow him because they know his voice.*" Recognition comes from familiarity and familiarity comes from time spent together. (Rooted, Week 3, Day 4)