

## Knowing God's Will

### Know His Voice

11/19/18

We have been considering how we can know God's will. One of the keys is that we need to learn how to hear God's voice. Jesus said very plainly that his sheep hear his voice and they know Him and follow Him.

What does it mean to hear God's voice and how do we hear Him? God speaks in a variety of ways. He speaks primarily through His Word, but He also speaks through His Holy Spirit which indwells every believer. The Holy Spirit enlightens believers to understand God's Word and He also speaks directly to us as believers.

One of the great tragedies of "religion" is that it can create a system that functions without the Holy Spirit. Someone has said that if the Holy Spirit left, 90% of our religious activities might continue unaffected. How sad, and perhaps telling, that statement is. In conservative evangelicalism, have we essentially eliminated the Holy Spirit from our lives? I'm afraid for many that might be the case.

As Jesus was preparing His disciples for His death, he instructed them about the Holy Spirit. [John 14-17](#) gives us some key insights into the ministry of the Holy Spirit. Jesus said that the Holy Spirit would teach the disciples all things. ([John 14:26](#)) He would convict of sin, righteousness, and judgment. ([John 16:8-11](#)) He would guide the disciples into all truth. ([John 16:12](#)) He would also declare "all that is the Father's" to them. ([John 16:13-15](#)) As we looked at previously, the Holy Spirit allows us as believers to discern the "deep things of God." ([1 Corinthians 2](#)) It is through the Holy Spirit that God communicates to us.

Furthermore, the Holy Spirit communicates through the Word of God, through the people of God, and through God-ordained circumstances. He also communicates with us in our spirit. ([1 John 5:6-8](#); [Romans 8:16](#)) God promises to speak – perhaps our problem is that we need to learn to listen.

In my life the issue in hearing from God is getting rid of the distractions or "white noise", slowing down, and listening for His voice. He has promised to speak to all who are His, and to all in whom the Holy Spirit dwells.

How often do you have conversations with God, rather than talking at God?

#### QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

1. What do you understand/ believe about the Holy Spirit speaking to you?
2. Have you ever unmistakably heard His voice?

3. How does the Holy Spirit speak through the Scriptures to you?

4. How else have you heard God's voice clearly speak to you?

5. What things tend to be distractions from hearing Him?

6. How can you develop the habit of listening to God?