



# Listening to God

If we're quiet and seek out God  
with all our heart, he will speak to us.

# Listening to God is Essential to Being Guided by God

Just because we don't hear God, doesn't mean he's not talking to us. He leads us through his word, through prayer, and circumstances that we don't always understand. His word will be consistent. He speaks with clarity, maybe not audibly but you'll know when he speaks to you. Sometimes he has to speak more than once to get our attention. Listening is absolutely essential to receiving his guidance. If all we want to do is talk, God will wait before he speaks to us. His silence sometimes is because we talk so much we don't give him a chance.

## To Listen to God He Must First Get Our Attention

God allows us to be restless in our spirit in order to get our attention. Sometimes God uses silence or even disappointment to get our attention. Finances, injury, suffering, pain, whatever it takes to get us to a place where we are ready to listen completely. No matter what it takes, if it prospers us in the ways of God, getting our attention, will be worth it. God knows our heart and he knows when we are truly ready to hear him with our heart. He also knows if we're really going to do what he tells us to do.

## Primary Reasons People Do Not Listen to God

1. people think they're too busy, but no one is too busy to listen to God.
2. people are afraid of what God might ask them to do or give up.
3. people are angry with God for some circumstance in life.
4. we have sin in our life that we refuse to deal with.

## The Consequences of Failing to Listen to God

God will turn us over to our own desires. We start to pay attention to the wrong advice and will make costly decisions. By refusing to listen to God, I am willfully rejecting the guidance of God. I miss out on the purpose God has mapped out for my life.

*Mark 4:1-3,23-24 KJV*

[1] And he began again to teach by the sea side: and there was gathered unto him a great multitude, so that he entered into a ship, and sat in the sea; and the whole multitude was by the sea on the land. [2] And he taught them many things by parables, and said unto them in his doctrine, [3] Hearken; Behold, there went out a sower to sow: [23] If any man have ears to hear, let him hear. [24] And he said unto them, Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given.

*Mark 7:14 KJV*

And when he had called all the people unto him, he said unto them, Hearken unto me every one of you, and understand:

# The Promise of God's Guidance

## 1. The **SOURCE** of the promise

God is the source of this divine promise. The value of the promise is dependent on who gives it, in this case, We can be guaranteed the assuredness because God said so.

## 2. The **INCLUSIVENESS** of the promise

I will instruct you, I will teach you in the way you should go. God will teach us to discern wisdom. Loving kindness will surround us.

## 3. The **COUNSEL** of the promise

I will Counsel you. God sends the Holy Spirit to us to guide us in all truths. We don't have to worry about what happens when God is giving us guidance. God knows all the circumstances of the situations we encounter.

### *Psalm 32:7-11 KJV*

[7] Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance. Selah. [8] I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye. [9] Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee. [10] Many sorrows shall be to the wicked: but he that trusteth in the Lord , mercy shall compass him about. [11] Be glad in the Lord , and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart.

# The Warning Concerning God's Promise

The negative consequences of a rebellious spirit. If we ignore the wisdom of God, we face the consequences. Many are the sorrows of the wicked.

