

How To Know And Hear The Voice Of God: By Erica Jerminus

God speaks to us in a number of ways. But the question to ask is... are we listening? Are our ears tuned to the voice of God? Do we know how to hear the voice of God? Or are there other distractions that are getting in the way of hearing and knowing Him deeply and intimately? In this short book, I talk about how to know and discern God's voice from other voices in your life. I talk about how to not only hear the voice of God, but also to obey His voice and to follow His guidance and instructions. In addition, I talk about the different ways that God speaks to us on a regular, daily basis. If you are interested in hearing more, then stay tuned!

God speaks to us in a number of different ways. But the main way He speaks is through the written word of God or the Bible. Hebrews 4:12 says, "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Reading God's word will help you to know God and His voice. John 10:27 says, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me." The Holy Spirit also speaks to us through a still, small voice when we are quiet, listening, and being still in His presence. Psalm 46:10 says, "Be

still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.”

We may need to remove the distractions so that we can hear His voice loud and clear and get guidance and instruction. By removing the distractions, we can turn off the television or the radio or put our phones on silent. This will help us to hear His still, small whisper. He speaks quietly and is patient and gentle. He will not force you to hear His voice if you do not want to hear Him. He lets you make that decision on your own if you are willing to listen to Him and obey Him.

God will give us instructions for us to follow and obey through the word of God, but also through stillness and quiet. That is how we can really get to know Him and have intimacy with Him. So, how can you know if what you are hearing is the voice of God? Well, first, the voice of God will line up with the word of God or the Bible. The voice of God will not contradict the word of God. So, if something goes against the word of God or the will of God, then it is not from God but from the enemy or yourself. The enemy will speak harshly towards you, and he will try to rush you or God’s timing.

God is loving, gentle, patient, and kind. So, if you hear God speak to you, you know Him because you have experienced Him before. You will know His voice the more you listen and obey Him. When we do not obey God right away, He may not speak again until we obey the last thing He told us to do. When we obey His voice and promptings, He will give us more promptings, guidance, and instructions to follow.

God also speaks in many different ways besides His word. God will speak to us in dreams and visions. When God wants to get our attention, He will speak through a dream while you are asleep. The enemy wants to try to get us to forget the dreams that God gives us. But we need to pray that we will remember our dreams when we wake up and throughout our day. We should also ask God for the meaning of the dreams and what the purpose of the dream was about. Ask Him for discernment when it comes to your dreams. Sometimes, our dreams are not from God, but are from the enemy. Any dream that is not from God, we should rebuke it or cancel it in the name of Jesus Christ.

God will warn us of certain people in our lives that He wants us to stay away from in our dreams. You may get

attacked by an animal in a dream. That could be a certain person in your life that God wants you to stay clear of. God will also show people in our lives in dreams as significant. He will show us if a person is from Him if we dream about them a lot. People who are from God may play an important role in our lives and that is why we see them in our dreams a lot. They may have a specific purpose in our lives or maybe we see them and you working together to accomplish something. We should write our dreams down so that we can go back to them for remembrance.

Joel 2:28 says, "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions."

God will also speak to us through visions. I had never had a vision before as of the time this book was written. But I believe that those who are sensitive to the Spirit experience more visions and dreams than those who are not. When we are sensitive to the Spirit, or we have the gift of seeing or hearing in the Spirit, we will have more visions and dreams. We will be able to sense things that other people cannot sense. We will

be able to hear and see things that others do not notice. Something that may seem ordinary to another person may be extraordinary to you.

God is always speaking in many different forms. But we just need to ask God for discernment to discern His voice when He is speaking. We should also ask Him to silence the voice of the enemy. We should ask Him to open our spiritual eyes and ears to see, hear, and know His voice. He will reveal Himself through anything and everything. If you have the Holy Spirit, you can be in tune with His voice and His promptings. You can know His voice because it does not go against His word or will. What you hear from God will not contradict what you hear in the Bible because it comes straight from Him. The enemy can also pretend to be God, but we need to ask God for discernment to know God's voice from the devils or your own voice.

God will also speak through various circumstances. We may have lost a job, a car, a home, a family member, or a spouse. God may speak to us through the loss of that thing or person to teach us a valuable lesson. It may be not to trust in that person or thing, but to trust in Him. Or it may be to be more thankful for what we have and

to appreciate the time we have with our loved ones. Some of these things we go through cannot be learned unless we are go through the pain and suffering.

When we learn from our lessons, we grow and mature as Christians. We develop strong faith and character from the tests and trials that we endure. God will speak through those tests and trials because He wants us to learn something from them. We should ask God what He wants to teach us from our tests and trials. He will show you what His reason and purpose is behind what we go through. Be patient with Him enough for Him to speak to you at His right timing. Sometimes, we do not always get the answer we are looking for when we want it. Somethings we pray for take time. But when we continue to show up on our part and put in the work necessary and continue to be obedient to God, He will come through with answered prayers.

James 1:2-4 says, "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing."

God will also speak through the weather outside. The sun could be shining brightly through your window and that is God's confirmation that you are on the right track and to keep doing what you are doing. He may also confirm with you through the sun that He is with you and that He loves you. Other times there may be a thunderstorm, a tornado, or a hurricane. God may use those storms to discipline us in His love. God also uses storms to draw people to Him and to each other. God uses storms to get people to pray for not only themselves or their families, but their communities as a whole.

Sometimes, when there is a catastrophic event, God will lead that event to cause people to turn to Him, repent, and be saved. When a lost or hurting soul goes through something hard and difficult, it may lead them to Jesus Christ. Also, the problem or situation humbles the lost, hurting, and broken and brings them to repentance and salvation. A storm in a person's life brings them to the end of themselves. A storm will cause a person to recognize their need for God in their lives. People also come to Christ through pain and suffering. People know they need a Savior to save them, heal them, and deliver them from their problems

and situations, so they turn to Christ in their deepest and darkest moments. Many have given their lives to Christ because of adverse circumstances and situations. All the glory to God for how He chooses to bring people unto Him.

God will also speak through other people and things. You may be online listening to a preacher and that preacher is anointed. The Holy Spirit will speak through a pure vessel that is being used by Him. If that person is a vessel of honor and not dishonor, God can use them for His glory. God can also speak through prophets, teachers, and evangelists. He will use who chooses and as He wills. He can even speak through an unbeliever or someone who is not saved. In the Old Testament, God spoke through a donkey. But whatever voice we are hearing, we should test it to see if it really is from God or not. There are many false teachers and preachers in the world that the enemy is using to deceive people and lead them to destruction.

1 John 4:1-3 says, "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that

confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.”

God will also speak through nature and creation. He will speak through the clouds in the sky or the flowers or the bugs and animals. A bird may land at your feet and that is God showing you that He has not left you and that He cares about you. God may speak through our pets. If we have a cat or dog, the pet may come up to us and comfort us in our time of need. A cat may purr and rub up against you or cuddle next to you. Cats and dogs can sense people's feelings and emotions. The animals know when a person is good or bad because of how they treat the animals. Some pets even favor certain people because of how they are treated by those people. The pets can trust them because they are familiar with them. That is how God speaks through animals.

God may speak through children and babies. A baby crying or laughing is God speaking to us. A child talking to us and asking us for help is God humbling us by asking Him for His help. A child may cry when they are

hurting because they need assistance, comfort, or assurance. So, they will go to their parents when they are hurting. God can speak through children and through parents as well. A parent may discipline their children out of love for them and that is the same with God, and so He may speak to us through our discipline and chastisement to get us to come back to Him or to repent of a certain sin in our lives. He wants us to know Him, and His love for us and so He will show it in people, places, and things. A child may laugh or smile because God wants us to enjoy life as a child does in its simplicity.

God can speak to us also through things. You may read something somewhere, and it is exactly what you need at the moment. You may read a billboard or a news article, or you may hear a song on the radio and the lyrics to that song speak to your spirit. That song may be exactly what you need at that time. God knows how to comfort us when we are hurting, alone, lost, broken, or in need. You may be watching a movie or seeing a commercial or reading a social media post and God speaks to you through that thing that you are watching. God knows how to speak to us and His timing is perfect.

