



**Hearing God – What Are You Listening To?
Pastor Dave Patterson
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USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

"Never underestimate the power of one clear conversation with God."

"You were created for interaction and conversation with God."

[John 10:27, ESV]

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me."

Know / Greek. Ginosko = Relational knowledge, intimacy, a close acquaintance

"Hearing His voice is a product or result of a relationship with God, not information."

[Isaiah 30:21, NLT]

Your own ears will hear him. Right behind you a voice will say, "This is the way you should go," whether to the right or to the left.

[John 8:47, NIV]

"Whoever belongs to God hears what God says."

[Revelation 3:20, NLT]

"Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends."

[Mark 4:24, NIV]

"Consider carefully what you hear."

4 Different Sources of Information:

1. **God** / The Holy Spirit
2. **The World** / Culture
3. **The Flesh** / Desires of Your fallen nature
4. **The Devil** / The unholy spirits

[Psalm 139:17, NLT]

How precious are your thoughts about me, O God. They cannot be numbered! I can't even count them; they outnumber the grains of sand!

[1 John 2:15-16, NIV]

¹⁵ Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. ¹⁶ For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world.

WORLD / KOSMOS = The worlds systems, values, and ways of thinking and living

[1 John 5:19, AMP]

We know [for a fact] that we are of God, and the whole world (kosmos) around us lies in the power of the evil one [opposing God and His precepts].

[John 17:15, NIV]

My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world (kosmos), even as I am not of it.

[Proverbs 27:20, NLT]

Just as death and destruction are never satisfied, so human desire (the flesh) is never satisfied.

[Ephesians 6:16, NIV]

In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the fiery darts of the evil one.

Rewards of the secret place (Psalm. 91)

- Rescue from every trap
- Protection from deadly disease
- Breaking off of fear
- "No evil will conquer you"
- "No plague will come near your home"
- God's nearness during trouble
- The reward of long life
- "When they call.... I will answer"

[Matthew 6:6, AMP]

"But you, when you pray, go into your room, (a secret place or chamber) and when you have shut your door (making it inaccessible to others), pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly"

Applications for the Week:

1. It's not too late, jump in with Pursuit month to fast and pray. Visit www.tfh.org and click "Learn More" on Fasting and Prayer.
2. Take time this week to spend significant, focused time with God. Tune in and turn off distractions and noise to hear Him speak.

Discussion Questions:

1. Briefly share a time when you were reading your Bible and God spoke to you.
2. What has been your experience hearing God? In what ways has He spoken to you?
3. How has hearing from God changed the trajectory of your life?
4. How does the role of the Holy Spirit reinforce God's desire to communicate with us?
5. What are the 3 voices that distract us from hearing God? Are any of those voices affecting you from hearing Him?
6. How does God cut through the "white noise" in our lives? Why is it important for us to create moments of quiet and stillness?
7. What happens when you let your flesh mask the voice of the Holy Spirit? How does it influence the plan, principles, and purposes God has for you?
8. How can you elevate and increase the volume of the still small voice of God in your life?

Group Action:

1. Challenge your group to set time aside this week to get into the secret place daily without distraction. Encourage them to listen and wait on Jesus to speak and write it down.