

# Practical Thoughts on Hearing God's Voice

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1. We learn to hear God's voice.
  - a. Each person's learning process is unique.
  - b. There are some general guidelines that help us learn to hear God's voice.
2. Everyone hears God's voice uniquely.
  - a. God communicates with each of us in the ways that works best for each individual.
3. Various ways people have heard God's voice include:
  - a. Hearing an audible voice
  - b. Seeing pictures or images
    - i. These may come with an understanding of what the image may mean.
  - c. Suddenly just knowing something
  - d. Noticing a small thought and then seeing it grow as the person pays attention to it
    - i. Acknowledging that the thought may be from God and paying attention to it is a way of trusting that God wants you to hear his voice and act on it.
  - e. A Scripture passage or a passage from some other reading material seems to "pop off the page," and the person understands what God is saying through it as he or she pays attention to it.
  - f. A person feels a pain or some other sensation in a body part and understands that God wants to heal someone with an issue in that part of his or her body.
  - g. Dreams
  - h. Visions
  - i. Prophetic messages from others
  - j. Words of knowledge or wisdom from another person
  - k. What else?
4. Ways you may be able to tell that it's God's voice you are hearing
  - a. It's unexpected. It's not something you would have thought of in the circumstances.
  - b. You feel Holy Spirit's presence as you hear the voice.
  - c. The same idea, word(s), or example keeps coming up again and again.
  - d. You hear the same/similar words or thoughts from different people or different venues (scripture, prophetic word, sermon, book you're reading, another person who mentions having heard something similar)
  - e. You see ways in which God has used what you heard to bless others or you.
    - i. In other words, the word from God bears fruit.
5. As you hear God's voice again and again, it becomes more recognizable to you. You begin to trust your ability to hear God.
6. Nobody gets this right all the time.
  - a. Hearing God and acting on what you hear is always an act of faith.
  - b. Remember that any act done in love is valuable and worth doing, so you don't need to feel bad if your sharing doesn't hit the mark.