

A background image showing the Earth from space, with a bright sun in the upper right corner. The Earth's blue atmosphere and white clouds are visible against the blackness of space.

A TIME FOR...

“Knowing if It’s God Speaking...”

**“Isn’t it funny how day by day
nothing changes, but when you look
back, everything is different ...”**

CS Lewis

Do People Naturally Recognise God's Voice?

1. People Don't Know When God Speaks 1Sam.3:8 NIV

⁸ A **third time** the Lord called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." Then **Eli realized** that the Lord was calling the boy.

2. People Don't Think as God Thinks Isaiah 55:8 NIV

⁸ "For **my thoughts are not your thoughts**, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord.

What Voices Affect Us...

- 1. Self:** **Gal 5:17** NLT The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants... These two forces are constantly fighting each other...
- 2. Society:** **1 John 2:15** ESV Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.
- 3. Satan:** **Luke 4:13** NLT When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.
- 4. Spirit:** **John 16:13** NLT When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard.

**“Hearing the voice of God is not
and experience that we earn,
but a capacity that we cultivate.”**

Where Does 'Capacity' to Hear Come From?

John 3: 5-7 ^{NLT}

⁵ Jesus replied, "I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life. ⁷ So don't be surprised when I say, 'You must be born again.'

God's Voice or Something Else?

1. **Consistent** - or Inconsistent? [Ps. 48:14](#)
2. **Clear Direction** - or Confusing? [1Cor. 14:33](#)
3. **Build Me Up** - or Break Me? [Rom. 8:16](#)
4. **Align with God's 'Word'** - or Against it? [Num. 23:19](#)

Confidence in Hearing God Speak...

I Kings 19:12-13 NIV

¹¹ ...the Lord passed by, and a mighty **windstorm** hit the mountain....but the Lord was not in the wind. ¹² After the earthquake came a **fire**, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a **gentle whisper**. ¹³ When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. Then a voice said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

Knowing if it's God Speaking or Just Me?

God's Whisper
(Focus)

God's Wisdom
(Framework)

God's Word
(Foundation)

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