(9) Live Give Grow Go

Normal Christian Living is Hearing God (Part 4)

**Five Tools for Hearing God (Mechanics) see slide**

1. Still Yourself
2. Recognizing the Source(s) of Your Thought Life
3. Look for Vision
4. Journal, Affirm, & Pray
5. The Counsel of Mature Believers

**1 John 4:1**

Dear friends, **do not believe everyone who claims to speak by the Spirit.** You **must test them to see if the spirit they have comes from God.** For there are **many false prophets** in the world.

This is Not an Exact Science

**1 Cor. 13:9-13**

**For we know in part and we prophesy in part;** **10**but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away. **11**When I was a child, I used to speak like a child, think like a child, reason like a child; when I became a man, I did away with childish things. **12 For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I will know fully just as I also have been fully known. 13 But now faith, hope, love, abide these three;** but the greatest of these is love.

* **Now is:**
  + “we know in part”; “mirror dimly”; “faith”; “hope” “love”
* **“Prophesy”** *(1 Cor. 13:9 “We know…we prophesy in part…”)*

**1 Thess. 5:19-20**

**19 Do not stifle the Holy Spirit.** **20 Do not scoff at prophecies**, **21**but test everything that is said. Hold on to what is good.

* + - * + ***“Naba”:*** The Hebrew Word for **Prophecy**

Means to ***“Bubble up”***

***“Ziyd”*: False Prophecy**

Means **“*Boil or Cook up”***

**2. Recognizing the Source(s) of Your Thought Life**

**All Thoughts Are Not Your Thoughts…**

* + **The Spirit**
    - **Spontaneous Flow**

**John 7:37-39**

37Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink.  38**"He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said,** **'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.'"** 39But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

* + - **Gentleness**
      * *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,**gentleness, self-control*…**(Gal. 5:22-23)**
    - **Awareness & Conviction of My Sin**
      * Not an emphasis on guilt or shame – but an awareness and a determination to deal with the rebellion inside
      * The enemy encourages the examination of the faults of others

**Romans 8:12-13**

**12**So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— **13**for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

* + - **A Willingness to Let You Struggle in Order to Grow**

*“There are times when God leaves huge question marks as tools in our lives to stretch our our faith.”* ***– Joyce Meyer***

**Matthew 13:44-46**

**44**“The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid *again*; and from joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.**45**“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking fine pearls, **46**and upon finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

* + **The Enemy**
* **Steal, Kill, & Destroy (John 10:10)**
* **Often Disguised as Religious**

**2 Cor. 11:13-15** For such men are false apostles, deceitful workers, **disguising themselves** as apostles of Christ. 1No wonder, for **even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light**. Therefore it is **not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness**, whose end will be according to their deeds.

* + **Self**
* **The Deceitful Heart**

**Jeremiah 17:9**

"**The heart is more deceitful than all else and is desperately sick; Who can understand it?**

**James 1:14-15 14**But each one is tempted **when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust.** **15**Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.

**Galatians 6:19-21**

**19**Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, **20**idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, **21**envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Next Week

3. Look for Vision

4. Journal, Affirm, & Pray

5. The Counsel of Mature Believers