

Love Reaches! Part 2: "Hearing His Voice!"

Of all the ways that our love reaches... it first *reaches up* to God! It's from our *Father* that real life flows! We were created to be *very near* Him and when we lost contact, God sent Jesus to bring us back!

Hebrews 10.18-22 "Where there is remission of sin by the blood of Jesus *we have the assurance that we can draw near to God!* It's an all new and alive pathway which He opened for us by the offering of His flesh, *so let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith,* having our hearts washed from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water."

Of all the ways that our love reaches... first and foremost is toward God!

Three Ways We Draw Near... *Thru His Word!* This is our initial introduction... and the foundation of our understanding of Him! ***Thru fasting!*** It's where we break the gravity of our flesh/to meet with Him in the Spirit! ***Thru "prayer!"*** It includes the petition approach... But it is about "near conversation!" The kind we cannot live without!

Alex's Story... *The Holy Spirit spoke clearly for me to join Him in a brand new experience and a revelation, one for me to watch, listen and learn. The Lord whispered "we're here by invitation and I love them... wait and listen." Then the Lord said, "I have done this, she is paving the way with My Word... wait and listen." Then the Lord said, "NOW, tell them the truth about Me, heaven and Jose..."*

We were destined and designed to operate in intimate fellowship with God...

This "conversation" is the inheritance and the equipping of the church... This is not an unusual event in the Bible! God clearly speaks clearly to His kids!

It's not unusual! Adam/Eve: "And don't eat from that tree, the day you eat of it, even touch it, you will die!" Noah: "Here are the spec's to that boat...!" Abram: "I have a place for you and your future tribe...!" Joseph: "This is the meaning of his dream!" Moses: "Come near Moses, but take off those shoes, this place is holy!" Specifics to kings and priests and prophets... and us...!

It's not unusual for mankind to not want to hear from God directly! "You speak to us Moses and we will listen, but don't let God speak to us because we will die!" **Ex20.19** "For this great fire will consume us; if we hear the voice of God any more we will die!" **Deut 5.25** The system of prophets, priests and kings makes it easy to ignore the word of God! "*that's their interpretation!*" But when you hear from the Lord too – there's no way out!

Without near conversation we are wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked! With it we are "excellent, happy, rich, visionary and outfitted!"

2Chronicles 7.14 If My people, which are called by My name, will humble themselves, and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways; then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their world.

The text regards national revival! Our context is revival of the Voice of God!

How do we prepare to hear from God?

If My people who are called by My name... More than just created mankind, this is *redeemed mankind!* ***Will humble themselves...*** Not groveling beggars for a word but sons and daughters with "I, Me, My" offline... Acknowledging that we aren't all that, don't have all the answers... That we need the leading and direction of God! ***And pray*** (open the conversation), and seek My face! **1Chr16.11 Ps27.8 105.4** Completely different than looking for something from God's hand! ***And turn from their wicked ways!*** For national revival/must turn actions! In conversation/must turn our minds from "other" things/idols...

wicked. How wicked? "They draw near Me with their mouth and honor Me with their lips but their hearts are far from Me..." **Mt15.8 Is 29.13**

How do we hear? Exercise of faith... I believe I am going to receive *from God!* **Pick a time and spot...** Don't build an altar there, not staying! "You" are the trysting place! **Get quiet before the Lord...** Shut off outer noise! Ipod/radio/TV (sounds) Shut out inner noise! I belong to You, I am here for You! **Open your conversation/simple greeting/ heart issue...** **Ps5.3** "I will direct my prayer to You and then I will look up!" **Listen...** **Ps91.15** "he will call on me, and I will answer him and deliver and honor him!" **J10.27** "My sheep hear My voice and I know them and they follow Me!" What words/thoughts/pictures did you hear "inside?"

Asides... God speaks thru His word, audible and inward conversation and "thoughts..." The purpose of speaking is to convey that's! We can 'convey' on paper, with our voice or a "dramatization" (demo) God has the power to implant a thot... And we know it because it is out of our world! Different that "remembering," "putting the pieces together" *New/whole/Him!*

Judge... *It cannot contradict the word of God!* 'Tense, what should I do?' "Get drunk!" 'Husband is a bum!' "Divorce him!" **Practice and discern!** When you've heard someone's voice over and over, you know it's them! Not only by sound: "That's my Dad!" Not only by substance: "That's certainly not MY dad!" But also by personal connection! "Ed!"

There is so much to say about prayer... so many facets... but all effective prayer begins with near conversation with God!