

# Lesson 3

## The Importance of Hearing God

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### VIDEO OUTLINE

Note: All scriptures used in this lesson are quoted from the *New King James Version*.

- I. Everything began the instant when I knew I was healed. The revelation was so important to me. It was not the knowledge of healing that got me healed—the renewed mind is incredibly important—but it was the quickening of the Spirit that got me healed. It wasn't that God decided to quicken me at that moment; it was that I came to a place of plugging in to the quickening of God.
  - A. I realized through this experience how important it is to hear God or to see God—see what He's doing—or to be quickened by His Spirit in order to receive that which we already know with our heads.
- II. People didn't come to Jesus to tell Him how bad it was. They came to Jesus to hear Him and to be healed. Their healing had something to do with what they had heard.

*However, the report went around concerning Him all the more; and great multitudes came together to hear, and to be healed by Him of their infirmities.*

Luke 5:15

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- A. Here's another example of people coming to hear and to be healed. The healing was an outflow of the hearing.

*And He came down with them and stood on a level place with a crowd of His disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem, and from the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, who came to hear Him and be healed of their diseases.*

Luke 6:17

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- B. It is incredibly important that our spirit man is able to hear the Word of God.

C. The great need in the church, among all Christians, is the need to be sensitive to the Spirit and voice of God. We have to know that we are hearing from Him.

III. We are supposed to be in a relationship, and there should be communication. That's normal in a relationship. We express our hearts to God, and He speaks to us. It's in that speaking that we are quickened to receive whatever He is speaking to us about.

A. Jesus is saying in John 5:19 that His ministry was absolutely limited to what He saw the Father doing. He could not go beyond what He saw the Father do.

*Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner."*

John 5:19

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B. There are many examples of Jesus spending whole nights in prayer or rising up a great while before day and going out in the wilderness to pray. I am convinced that in those times of prayer, He received a revelation, a download, or a vision of that day's ministry.

C. The minister needs to be as tuned in to God as the afflicted one is. We need to be moving in a realm of the Spirit in which we're not just doing something by routine. Often the afflicted people come up dutifully or by routine to be prayed for, and the minister dutifully or by routine prays for them.

D. I have recognized times when I wasn't really in a place of seeing what God was doing. I knew what He did, and I knew His will, but it wasn't necessarily something that was alive in the moment for the person that was wanting help. The idea of hearing God isn't only for the one who's afflicted; they need this as well, but it's also for the minister.

E. We need to take seriously the fact that God wants to move through us to bring healing to other people's lives. That is going to require the same kind of relationship that Jesus had with the Father.

IV. The knowledge of His will is not enough. My knowledge of God's will does not always translate into a spiritual reality in my life.

*And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.*

Romans 12:2

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- A. Jesus took a verse from the Old Testament, but He applied it to His ministry. The reason these people were sick was because they had hardened their hearts: they stopped hearing, they stopped seeing, they stopped pursuing the things of God. They were no longer sensitive to the things of God, but if they were, they could get healed.

*For the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes they have closed, Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, So that I should heal them.*

Matthew 13:15

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- B. God is always speaking. It's not that we try to get God to speak, but we come to a place where we are continually hearing Him speak through the Scripture or by the Spirit of God. We can call it seeing or hearing, but there is a continual quickening in us. That's where ministry comes from.
- C. The minister has as much, if not more, responsibility to know the things of God than the afflicted person.
- V. The most effective way to hear God is through His Word.

*Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.*

Psalms 119:105

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- A. My hearing comes directly from my time in the Word and meditating on the Word, hearing other people, or hearing other things in the environment in which I live. I have put a foundation of the Word into my heart; someone can say something (even if it's not from the Word) and because I am full of the Word, something comes alive, something is quickened, and I get a revelation.
- B. We have to be Word people. We have to soak in the Word of God and understand His will. The transformation of the mind in this aspect is incredibly important.

- C. The Word of God is spirit, but are you receiving it as spirit or is it just knowledge? This is where we sometimes get unplugged from what we really need.

*It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.*

John 6:63

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- D. The Word is spirit, but you're a spirit, too. There must to be a connection, Spirit-to-spirit, for us to be quickened into that which God has for us.
- VI. True ministry is about revealing to people the nature of God, His purpose for their lives, His character, His promises, and their potential. Ministry is about revelation, revealing things to people, helping them to hear, or giving them the opportunity to hear or see the things of God.

*That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints.*

Ephesians 1:17-18

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- A. Every Christian can hear and know, but not every Christian is aware of or pursuing that. If we're going to have effective healing ministries, we've got to have ministers that are seeing, hearing, and knowing. But we also need afflicted people who realize they can see, hear, and know as well.
- B. You know you've heard God when faith is activated, but that is only going to happen by spiritual hearing.
- C. When you hear anything that propels you into a new dimension of living, a new expectancy, or a new action that is based upon what was quickened to you, you've heard God.
- D. I realized by the Spirit of God that you can put anything in the blank that follows Romans 8:16 (within the covenant promises of God). For example, 1 Peter 2:24 says that the Spirit itself bears witness, or the Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit, that by his stripes we were healed.

*The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.*

Romans 8:16

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- E. Romans 10:8-10 doesn't say with the head; it says with the heart. Well, the heart is where the Spirit of God is. The heart is the union of your spirit and your soul man, and you choose which side you will live from. You live from your emotions, logic, and memories, or you live by the Spirit of God. That union is called the heart, and you can choose to live by the Spirit of God.

*But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*

Romans 10:8-10

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- VII. The quickening of the Spirit is important to the minister and the one being ministered to. Peter was quickened as the minister (Acts 3:1-10), and the afflicted man at Lystra was quickened (Acts 14:8-18). That's the secret of healing.

- A. Paul prayed that they would have spiritual understanding, not just mental understanding.

*For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God.*

Colossians 1:9-10

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- B. In the case of the afflicted one, they will hear something by the Word of God that's being preached, and then they'll be quickened. The quickening is going to be the answer to everything, regardless of who is quickened—the minister or the one being healed.
- C. You have been created to hear God. Even before you are born again and you're not of one spirit with Him yet, your spirit can still hear Him.

*My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.*

John 10:27

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- D. Why don't we hear God all the time? His words are spirit and life, but the Spirit of the Word is getting choked by the cares of the world and the desire for other things.

*And the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.*

Mark 4:19

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- E. The more we declutter our lives and choose to spend time in the spirit, with the Spirit of God, in the Word of God, and praying for spiritual understanding, the more we will hear God. It will become the expected normal.

VIII. God is Spirit. We are spirit, soul, and body. Everything is in place for you to hear God, for you to see, and for you to be quickened.

*But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him.*

1 Corinthians 6:17

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- A. Something has to be getting quickened. That's the beauty of ministry: it's a spiritual transaction. Jesus's ministry relied totally on hearing the Father. He was absolutely limited to hearing from God.

*I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.*

John 5:30

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- B. Every miracle we see, every healing we see in the Gospels, Jesus saw or heard from God first. He was connected to the source so intimately. When we're ministering healing to other people, we need to be in that same place.
- C. In some things, I've had a revelation that will carry me the rest of my life. In other things, I need a refreshing revelation; I need a fresh word.
- D. You must get a word at some point that is going to propel you. If that word runs out of energy, then you need to get it refreshed into your spirit man and move again into miraculous ministry.

- E. In the world of faith, faith is not mental. The mind can assist in knowing the will of God. Faith is spiritual, and there's only one source for the spiritual—God, who is spirit, is the only source.
- F. Your real hearing takes place in your heart. Your real seeing takes place in your heart.

*Moreover He said to me: "Son of man, receive into your heart all My words that I speak to you, and hear with your ears."*

Ezekiel 3:10

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- G. You can see who is spending time with God by their fruit, by what the harvest looks like in their life.

*But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.*

Matthew 13:23

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- H. The Word of God is alive and active. So, it's not that we try to get a word from God. We're trying to get into a place of activating the Word in our own hearts.

*For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

Hebrews 4:12

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