

TRAIL GUIDE



- We **substitute** God's directions with our best intentions.

8 I will instruct you (says the Lord) and guide you along the best pathway for your life; I will advise you and watch your progress. 9 Don't be like a senseless horse or mule that has to have a bit in its mouth to keep it in line!

Psalm 32:8-9 (TLB)

5 Trust GOD from the bottom of your heart; don't try to figure out everything on your own. 6 Listen for GOD's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; he's the one who will keep you on track.

Proverbs 3:5-6 (MSG)

Why we need to hear God:

- It quiets our **fears**.
- It protects us from making **mistakes**.
- It brings **guidance** to our lives.
- It teaches us to **listen**.

- It identifies us as **belonging** to God.

John 10:27 (MSG)

John 8:47 (GWT)

14 For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. Romans 8:14 (NIV)

We need to understand:

- God **wants** to **speak** to us.
- God **cares** about the **details** of our lives.

18 When people do not accept divine guidance, they run wild. But whoever obeys the law is joyful.

Proverbs 29:18 (NLT)

We might not be hearing God because:

- We don't believe that God **wants** to **speak** to us.
- We're too **busy**.
- We're listening for what **we want to hear**.
- God wants a **conversation**, we want **answers**.

How to tune in to God's voice:

- If we don't follow through with the **little** things, we won't be dialed in for the **big** things.

- When we ignore God, we train our heart to tune God **out** rather than tune **in**.
- If we are not **open** to God's **purpose** for our life, we are only looking for answers to a self directed life.
- God speaks when we're **surrendered** to Him.

How God speaks:

- Through His **Spirit**.

26 The Holy Spirit...he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you. John 14:26 (NLT)

- Through the **scriptures**.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (TLB)

- Through other **believers**.

Ephesians 3:10 (NIV)

- Through **Impressions**.

Job 33:14-15 (NLT)

A few tests that are important:

- Is it consistent with the **scriptures**?
- Does my **church family** confirm it?
- Does it lead me to **trust God** more?

What do I need to do to hear God:

- I need to develop an open Heart.
- I need to make time to **listen**.

Have Questions? Text them to: (559)-464-5754

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday?
- Do you believe that it is important that God speaks to us? What are one of the main reasons you need to hear God speak?
- If you can, tell of a time that God has spoken to you. Why was that important?
- How would you explain to someone what God's voice sounds like?
- Discuss why each of the points are important under the sub-heading "Why we need to hear God".
- Why do you think that many Christ followers don't hear God speak to them?
- How do we ignore God's voice? What happens when we do that for an extended period of time?
- What does the point mean to you: "God speaks when we are surrendered to Him"?
- When we believe that God is speaking to us, why is it important that we test it? Talk about how we test it.
- How do we develop an open heart that allows God to speak and allows us to hear?
- Do you personally make time to listen for God's voice in everything you do? Is that a realistic goal?
- How can we be more intentional with listening to God?

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