

Activity Name: Hearing God's Voice

Objective: Students learn 1) they can hear the Lord's voice and 2) that this is important for guidance through life

Scriptural Foundation: My sheep know my voice, I know them and they follow me. John 10:27

Warm-up:

Create an obstacle course in the room with chairs, tables, etc.

Have one student blindfolded and attempt to get through the obstacle course.

Pick one student to instruct the blindfolded student through the obstacle course.

Pick 3-4 other students to give the wrong directions. Instruct those students to give the right directions from time to time to trick the blindfolded student.

The goal is for the student to guess which voice is correct and follow that voice.

You can do it one or two more times switching up students and the course.

Ask the blindfolded students about the experience. How long did it take them to figure out which voice was correct? Did they ever guess? If so, how? Did the obstacle course become easier at that point? How did you ignore the other voices?

Lesson:

There are four voices in our heads at all times God's, Satan's, ours, and outside forces (parents, friends, coworkers, etc.). We should listen to God's voice at all time. The other three can lead us astray from God and his word. (This is the time to say something about obeying/honoring our parents while we are young.)

Let us remember how the blindfolded students felt at the beginning. There were many people yelling at them but they had to decide which one is correct. Lucky for us, there is only one correct voice to follow in our heads. After practice listening to God's voice, we will practice ignoring the other voices and living guided by God. There are times in our lives when we will have many people yelling at us. During these times, we must decipher between the voice of God and the voice of others.

My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. John 10:27

We as Christians want to follow God. The verse says that I cannot follow him if I do not know his voice.

So how do I know/listen to God's voice? God speaks to us in a few different ways. Today we are talking about the bible, or the written word of God, and the Holy Spirit, God's voice in our head that speaks directly to us.

The Bible:

Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path. Psalm 119:105

No one in this world has it together. We all need guidance from God daily to live like Jesus. One way to do that is think of life as a path through the forest. There is little light because of the trees. God's word will guide us if we choose it.

The great thing about the bible is that it never changes! We can always go back to it to hear from God about situations in our lives. The bible is central to the life of a Christian and in hearing from God.

The Holy Spirit:

Many people have never heard God speak to them. Rest assured that God always wants to talk to us. A good earthly father wants to give his children wisdom and help them grow in knowledge; God wants to do that a million times more. He wants to speak to us and share himself with us. You must want to know him that way and believe that he will speak to you.

“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. “Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him! Matthew 7:7-11

So what does this mean for you?

According to this verse, God will speak to us if we ask him to. It can be confusing at times to know if it is from God and what isn't. One way to know if something is from God or not is to see if it lines up with the word of God. The Holy Spirit will never tell you to say anything contrary to what the bible says. Another way is if the voice you hear is gentle. Gentleness is a fruit of the spirit and therefore Satan cannot be gentle with us. He is more like a bully in our heads forcing us to move toward death and destruction by sinning. Lastly, God's voice is loving. This does not mean that God does not correct remember he is a father and will correct us if he has too. The correction should lead us to conviction not shame and guilt.

Wrap-Up:

God wants to talk to his sheep; he loves us and wants us to hear his voice.

If you want to hear God's voice outside of the bible there are a few things you can do.

(You can do this in person or instruct students to go home and practice)

Start by praying that God speak to you.

Secondly, you have to practice. One way to practice is to ask God simple questions.

Examples:

God ,who do you say that I am?

God, do you love me?

If you don't hear anything, try and try again. His word says he will open the door if we ask.