



## Summer of Lies

When Scripture is misunderstood. When Scripture is used to deceive. When Scripture is not studied.

**Lie#6: God doesn't speak to people today. It was just for biblical times.**

Week 1: LIE: God uses shame to correct me and change me.

Week 2: LIE: God is not concerned with my everyday life, only the things I do for Him.

Week 3: LIE: Women are not Created to be Leaders

Week 4: LIE: You MUST be Married to Please God

Week 5: LIE: All I need is God. Who needs friends.

### SLIDE # 1

**Lie #6 God doesn't speak to people today. It was just for biblical times.**

Firstly, let's just acknowledge that statement believes that God spoke in biblical times! That's a great start.

Secondly, it assumes what once was is no longer. How could that be since God is the same yesterday, today, and forever? Hebrews 13:8

### SLIDE # 2

#### **John 17: 20-24**

<sup>24</sup>“Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. <sup>25</sup>O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. <sup>26</sup>And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, **that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.**”

These verses in John reveal Jesus' deep desire to have us enter into the close relationship that He and the Father share.

**Our ability to have a relationship with anyone is based upon communication.**

So it is with God.

Fortunately for us, the ability to interact with God that was established at creation.

It was broken at the Fall of man through sin, and because of Jesus' death, burial, resurrection, & ascension, the communication has been restored when we are born into the family of God at Salvation.

**God still speaks today through the Holy Spirit in a variety of ways.**

### SLIDE # 3

***What does that communication look like with God, Who we can't see or touch?***

**7 Points:**

- 1. Hearing God-what's that all about?**
- 2. How do we hear from God?**
- 3. Old Testament examples of hearing God**
- 4. New Testament examples of hearing God**
- 5. Obstacles to hearing God**
- 6. Aids to hearing God**
- 7. Responsibilities of hearing God**



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SLIDE #4

### I. "Hearing" God

#### A. Instruction to hear & listen: [36 scriptures, not exhaustive]

***Because He tells us to listen, listening for Him must be possible.***

SLIDE # 5

John 10:4 When He has brought out all His own, He goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow Him **because they know His voice.**

SLIDE # 6

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

- Exo 15:26 He said, "If you listen carefully to the LORD your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, who heals you."
- Exo 23:21-22 Pay attention to him (the angel) and listen to what he says. Do not rebel against him; he will not forgive your rebellion, since my Name is in him. If you listen carefully to what he says and do all that I say, I will be an enemy to your enemies and will oppose those who oppose you.
- Num 12:6 he (the LORD) said, "Listen to my words: "When there is a prophet among you, I, the LORD, reveal myself to them in visions, I speak to them in dreams.
- Deu 5:27 Go near and listen to all that the LORD our God says. Then tell us whatever the LORD our God tells you. We will listen and obey."
- Deu 18:19 I myself will call to account anyone who does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name.
- Deu 26:17 You have declared this day that the LORD is your God and that you will walk in obedience to him, that you will keep his decrees, commands and laws—that you will listen to him.
- Deu 27:9 Then Moses and the Levitical priests said to all Israel, "Be silent, Israel, and listen! You have now become the people of the LORD your God.
- Deu 30:20 and that you may love the LORD your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the LORD is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.
- Deu 31:12 Assemble the people—men, women and children, and the foreigners residing in your towns—so they can listen and learn to fear the LORD your God and follow carefully all the words of this law.
- Jos 3:9 Joshua said to the Israelites, "Come here and listen to the words of the LORD your God.
- Neh 9:17 They refused to listen and failed to remember the miracles you performed among them. They became stiff-necked and in their rebellion appointed a leader in order to return to their slavery. But you are a forgiving God, gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love. Therefore you did not desert them,
- Neh 9:29 "You warned them in order to turn them back to your law, but they became arrogant and disobeyed your commands. They sinned against your ordinances, of which you said, 'The person who obeys them will live by them.' Stubbornly they turned their backs on you, became stiff-necked and refused to listen.
- Job 38:1 Then the LORD answered Job out of the storm.
- Job 42:4 "You (God) said, 'Listen now, and I will speak; I will question you, and you shall answer me.'
- Psa 10:17 You, LORD, hear the desire of the afflicted; you encourage them, and you listen to their cry,
- Psa 81:11 "But my people would not listen to me; Israel would not submit to me.



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- Psa 81:13 "If my people would only listen to me, if Israel would only follow my ways,
- Zec 7:13 "When I called, they did not listen; so when they called, I would not listen," says the LORD Almighty.
- Mal 2:2 If you do not listen, and if you do not resolve to honor my name," says the LORD Almighty, "I will send a curse on you, and I will curse your blessings. Yes, I have already cursed them, because you have not resolved to honor me.
- Mat 15:10 Jesus called the crowd to him and said, "Listen and understand.
- Mat 17:5 While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"
- Mar 7:14 Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, "Listen to me, everyone, and understand this.
- Mar 9:7 Then a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!"
- Luk 8:18 Therefore consider carefully how you listen. Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what they think they have will be taken from them."
- Luk 9:35 A voice came from the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him."
- Luk 9:44 "Listen carefully to what I am about to tell you: The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men."
- Luk 16:29 "Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.'
- Jhn 9:31 We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly person who does his will.
- Jhn 10:1-10 "Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, **and the sheep listen to his voice**. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him *because they know his voice*. But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice." Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them. Therefore Jesus said again, "Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.
- Jhn 10:16 I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd.
- Jhn 10:27 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.
- Act 3:22-23 For Moses said, 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you must listen to everything he tells you. Anyone who does not listen to him will be completely cut off from their people.'
- Act 4:19 But Peter and John replied, "Which is right in God's eyes: to listen to you, or to him? You be the judges!
- Act 10:33 So I sent for you immediately, and it was good of you to come. Now we are all here in the presence of God to listen to everything the Lord has commanded you to tell us."
- Jas 1:22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.
- 1Jo 4:6 We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood.

Does God EVER ask us or tell us to do something that we have NO power of choice to do?



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***Because He tells us to listen, listening for Him must be possible.***

SLIDE # 7

How do we "hear?"

SLIDE # 8

1. Learning from Pr. Mike: How to Hear God's Voice Sermon 4/13/2014
  - a. Obvious & Obscure [uncommon]
    1. Visions
    2. Dreams
    3. Angels
    4. Audibly  
Num 12:6, Joel 2:28, Daniel 2:19, Luke 1:26-38, Num 12:4-9
  - b. Not So Obvious & Regular
    1. Creation: Rom 1:18-20, Ps. 29:3-5
    2. Circumstances: plagues Ex 9:14
    3. Preachers, Prophets & Godly Friends: Mark 1:1-4, Rom 10:13-15, Prov 15:22
    4. Inner Conviction: Matt 16:13-17, Still Small Voice 1 Kings 19:11-12
    5. **The Word: John 1:1-2**

SLIDE # 9

### III. Old Testament examples of hearing God:

God Said:	
At Creation: Gen 1:3, 1:6, 1:9, 1:11, 1:14, 1:20, 1:24, 1:26, 1:29, 2:18, 3:13-14, 3:22	To Gideon: Judges 6:20
To Adam & Eve: Gen 1:22 1:28	To Solomon: 1Ki 3:5, 3:11, 2Ch 1:11
To Noah: Gen 6:13, 8:15, 9:8, 9:12, 9:17	To Saul: 1Ch 11:2
To Abram/Abraham: Gen 17:3, 17:9, 17:19, 21:12, 22:2	To David: 1Ch 28:
To Jacob/Israel: Gen 31:11, 32:28, 35:10, 46:2-3, 48:3	To Jonah: Jon 4:9
To Moses: Exo 3:5, 3:12, 3:14, 13:17	God the Father to Jesus: Heb 5:5, 7:21
To Balaam: Num 22:12	To Hagar: Gen 16:13
To Laban: Gen 31:24, 31:29	

SLIDE # 10

IV.

### New Testament examples of hearing God:

- a. **Philip:** Acts 8:26-38.

hearing

<sup>26</sup> Now an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, "Arise and go toward the south along the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is desert. <sup>27</sup> So he arose and went. And behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace the queen of the Ethiopians, who had charge of all her treasury, and had come to Jerusalem to worship, <sup>28</sup> was returning. And sitting in his chariot, he was reading Isaiah the prophet. <sup>29</sup> Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go near and overtake this chariot."

<sup>30</sup> So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?"



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<sup>31</sup> And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him. <sup>32</sup> The place in the Scripture which he read was this:

*"He was led as a sheep to the slaughter;  
And as a lamb before its shearer is silent,  
So He opened not His mouth.*

*In His humiliation His justice was taken away,  
And who will declare His generation?  
For His life is taken from the earth."*

What opportunity opened because of hearing & obeying?

<sup>34</sup> So the eunuch answered Philip and said, "I ask you, of whom does the prophet say this, of himself or of some other man?" <sup>35</sup> Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him. <sup>36</sup> Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, *here is* water. What hinders me from being baptized?"

What FRUIT resulted from hearing God?

<sup>37</sup> Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may."

And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."

<sup>38</sup> So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him.

b. **Paul:** Acts 9:3-9 heard with his human ears a supernatural voice. Others heard something like thunder

<sup>3</sup> As he journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly a light shone around him from heaven. <sup>4</sup> Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?"

<sup>5</sup> And he said, "Who are You, Lord?"

Then the Lord said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. It is hard for you to kick against the goads."

Couldn't have been a delusion because more than 1 person heard.

<sup>6</sup> So he, trembling and astonished, said, "Lord, what do You want me to do?"

Then the Lord said to him, "Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

<sup>7</sup> And the men who journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice but seeing no one. <sup>8</sup> Then Saul arose from the ground, and when his eyes were opened he saw no one. But they led him by the hand and brought *him* into Damascus. <sup>9</sup> And he was three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank.<sup>1</sup>

**Later Paul provides more explanation in Acts 9:26-27 about what happens in Acts 9:3-9**

<sup>26</sup> And when Saul had come to Jerusalem, he tried to join the disciples; but they were all afraid of him, and did not believe that he was a disciple. <sup>27</sup> But Barnabas took him and brought *him* to the apostles. And **he declared to them how he had seen the Lord on the road, and that He had spoken to him**, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. <sup>28</sup><sup>2</sup>

Didn't just hear Him, but seen Him..?

<sup>1</sup> [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ac 9:3-9.

<sup>2</sup> [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ac 9:26-28.



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### c. Ananias: hears from Jesus: Acts 9:10-19

<sup>10</sup> Now there was a certain disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and to him the Lord said in a vision, "Ananias."

And he said, "Here I am, Lord."

<sup>11</sup> So the Lord said to him, "Arise and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for *one* called Saul of Tarsus, for behold, he is praying. <sup>12</sup> And in a vision he has seen a man named Ananias coming in and putting *his* hand on him, so that he might receive his sight."

Having a conversation in prayer.

<sup>13</sup> Then Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much harm he has done to Your saints in Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on Your name."

<sup>15</sup> But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. <sup>16</sup> For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name's sake."

What opportunity opened because of hearing & obeying?

**[Ananias obeys, emphasis mine]**

<sup>17</sup> And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, **the Lord Jesus**, who appeared to you on the road as you came, **has sent me** that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." <sup>18</sup> Immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he received his sight at once; and he arose and was baptized.

What FRUIT resulted from hearing God?

<sup>19</sup> So when he had received food, he was strengthened. Then Saul spent some days with the disciples at Damascus.<sup>3</sup>

### d. Cornelius: Acts 10:1-8 vision/hearing

<sup>1</sup> There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of what was called the Italian Regiment, <sup>2</sup> a devout man and one who feared God with all his household, who gave alms generously to the people, and prayed to God always. <sup>3</sup> About the ninth hour of the day he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God coming in and saying to him, "Cornelius!"

hearing

<sup>4</sup> And when he observed him, he was afraid, and said, "What is it, lord?"

So he said to him, "Your prayers and your alms have come up for a memorial before God. <sup>5</sup> Now send men to Joppa, and send for Simon whose surname is Peter. <sup>6</sup> He is lodging with Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the sea. He will tell you what you must do." <sup>7</sup> And when the angel who spoke to him had departed, Cornelius called two of his household servants and a devout soldier from among those who waited on him continually. <sup>8</sup> So when he had explained all these things to them, he sent them to Joppa.

### e. Peter: vision Acts 10: 9-16

<sup>3</sup> [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ac 9:10–19.



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**9** The next day, as they went on their journey and drew near the city, Peter went up on the housetop to pray, about the sixth hour. **10** Then he became very hungry and wanted to eat; but while they made ready, he fell into a trance **11** and saw heaven opened and an object like a great sheet bound at the four corners, descending to him and let down to the earth. **12** In it were all kinds of four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, creeping things, and birds of the air. **13** And a voice came to him, "Rise, Peter; kill and eat."

hearing

**14** But Peter said, "Not so, Lord! For I have never eaten anything common or unclean."

**15** And a voice spoke to him again the second time, "What God has cleansed you must not call common." **16** This was done three times. And the object was taken up into heaven again.

What FRUIT resulted from hearing God?

**The rest of Acts 10-Peter goes, meets Cornelius, shares about Jesus, the Holy Spirit fills them all!**

f. The Church in Antioch: Acts 13 the Holy Spirit sending Barnabus & Saul

**13** Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. <sup>2</sup> As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." <sup>3</sup> Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them away.<sup>4</sup>

What FRUIT resulted from hearing God?

**Paul & Barnabus' missionary journey-Paul's continued missionary work & all the impact of Jesus through the Holy Spirit that history testifies to & that we're still witnessing from those efforts.**

**V. Obstacles to hearing:** Asking some questions in prayer of the Lord & maybe a trusted mature Christian friend.

SLIDE # 11

- a. What could be impairing our ability to hear?
  - i. Unforgiveness
  - ii. Fear
  - iii. Sin
- b. Clearing the decks:
  - i. Who do I need to forgive? (ourselves included)
  - ii. What do I do?
    1. Understanding the command to forgive. Matt 6:14
    2. The dual need: forgiveness/healing of a wound
  - iii. Am I submitting to a fear instead of obeying God?
    1. What do I do if so?
      - a. Repent
      - b. ask for His help

<sup>4</sup> The New King James Version (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ac 13:1-3.



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- c. obey
- iv. Am I allow a sin to guide my life instead of God?
  - 1. What do I do?
    - a. Repent-turn & go the other way.
    - b. Ask for His help in prayer.
    - c. Ask for His help THROUGH SAFE, MATURE OTHERS.

**Repentance**—There are three Greek words used in the New Testament to denote repentance. (1.) The verb *metamelomai* is used of a change of mind, such as to produce regret or even remorse on account of sin, but not necessarily a change of heart. This word is used with reference to the repentance of Judas (Matt. 27:3).

(2.) *Metanoeo*, meaning to change one's mind and purpose, as the result of after knowledge. This verb, with (3.) the cognate noun *metanoia*, is used of true repentance, a change of mind and purpose and life, to which remission of sin is promised.

Evangelical repentance consists of (1) a true sense of one's own guilt and sinfulness; (2) an apprehension of God's mercy in Christ; (3) an actual hatred of sin (Ps. 119:128; Job 42:5, 6; 2 Cor. 7:10) and turning from it to God; and (4) a persistent endeavour after a holy life in a walking with God in the way of his commandments.

The true penitent is conscious of guilt (Ps. 51:4, 9), of pollution (51:5, 7, 10), and of helplessness (51:11; 109:21, 22). Thus he apprehends himself to be just what God has always seen him to be and declares him to be. But repentance comprehends not only such a sense of sin, but also an apprehension of mercy, without which there can be no true repentance (Ps. 51:1; 130:4).

Easton, M. G. (1893). In *Easton's Bible dictionary*. New York: Harper & Brothers.

### VI. Aids to hearing:

SLIDE # 12

- a. Engage with your bible. Our primary way to hear.
  - i. Absorb as much as you can in any way you can. Read it, sing it, write it, pray it, draw it, study it, etc. Not so much to *know* stuff, but to meet someone & learn more about Him.
- b. Engage with God [journaling is extremely helpful for this because memory isn't always so permanent and you can go back & see answers to prayer.]
  - i. Take what you're learning in the scriptures, ASK Him questions, & begin looking for insights or answers.
  - ii. Talk with Him about specific things that need care and watch what happens.
- c. Engage with people.
  - i. Talk about what you're learning
  - ii. Find out what they're learning—you may "hear" from God through them-Bonus!
  - iii. Ask questions together—be in a small group. ☺ Another way to "hear."
  - iv. Serve somewhere-what you're learning gets put into practice-the art of living our theology. Where we get to transform head knowledge of what the bible says into practical knowledge. Gr. Ginosko

### VII. Responsibilities with hearing God:

SLIDE # 13

- a. How can I rest that I'm hearing God & not making it up or that what someone shares with me is from God? Testing/sifting



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### SLIDE # 14

#### I John 4:1-2

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

1. Does it edify, encourage and comfort? (1 Cor 14:3) [uplifted or icky]
  2. What is the spirit behind the message? Man's, Satan's, or the Holy Spirit?
  3. Does it glorify the Lord Jesus? (1 Cor 12:3)
  4. Does it conform to Scripture?
  5. Does it lead people to truth?
  6. Does it create a greater love for God and man?
  7. Is it manipulative or controlling?
  8. Is it corroborated by the healthy spiritual leadership?
- b. How to share:
- i. Be normal & Humble-I have an encouragement for you, not Thus sayeth the Lord. No one can challenge that-it can be spiritually manipulating.
- c. What happens if I make a mistake?

Learn from your mistake.  
Take responsibility.  
Apologize.  
Don't hide. Be normal.

#### CONCLUSION:

**God wants to be in relationship with us.  
We can hear Him AND He can hear us.**

### SLIDE # 15

#### **John 17: 20-24**

<sup>24</sup>“Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. <sup>25</sup>O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. <sup>26</sup>And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare <sup>it</sup>, **that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.**”