Beaverton Foursquare Church Sunday A.M. 1/24/16 Spirit and the Word Part 3 Pastor Randy Remington

Getting a Word from God from the Word of God

We need to be a person who is consistently in the Word of God. The goal is to be full of the Word and the Spirit. We need to know what God has already said in his word, so that we are not deceived. For there will be many voices some louder, some crafty and convincing but it is his voice we hear.

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

We have to learn how to recognize when God is speaking to us

Many of us began to talk to our babies from the very first moment. They may have not understood much of what we were saying but they began to become familiar with their mother and fathers voice. It's the same for us, we start to become familiar and understand the tone and pattern of his voice.

"We want God to do something, what if God wanted to say something?"

The foundation for increasing your awareness of the voice and presence of God in your life is the Bible.

Reviewing last week's look at the "word" is crucial to understanding what we are studying today.

Logos

Logos is an expression or an articulation of a thought. It's more than the mere name of an object but it is an embodiment of a concept, idea or thought...it is the ultimate truth.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." (John 1:1)

There will never be a greater 'Logos'

Rhema

"Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ." (Romans 10:17)

Rhema refers to a personal, living and life giving word from God. It often

Rhema refers to a personal, living and life giving word from God. It often has to do with identity, correction, direction or healing. It nourishes the spirit of a person.

"Sometimes big decisions take big revelations" (it leaves no doubt)

Meditation à Revelation à Activation
(Actively getting (Faith)
God's word in you)

"Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful." (Joshua 1:8)

"But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart." (Luke 2:19)

When we don't spend time in his word we will have the tendency to magnify the faults of others...and minimizing the faults in ourselves even become blind to our own.

Strategies for Hearing God's Voice:

"Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" (Matthew 4:4)

"...The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life." (John 6:63)

"Simon Peter answered him, "lord, to whom shall we go? You alone have the words of eternal life." (John 6:68)

"Pay attention to what I say; listen closely to my words. Do not let them out of your sight, keep them within your heart; for they are life to those who find them and health to one's whole body."

(Proverbs 4:20-22)

- 1) Get a bible, journal and pen.
- 2) **Read your bible:** *If possible, find a consistent time and place.*

"A lifetime of transformation 30 minutes at a time"!

3) Make a plan (a system or approach) on how to read, retain and

- 3) Make a plan (a system or approach) on how to read, retain and reflect on the scriptures.
- 4) **Meditate on the Word:** *Sing it, pray it, memorize it, say it, re-state it, and/or write it.*
 - "Meditate": Focused and sustained attention.
- 5) Obey it!

Safeguards for discerning God's voice:

- 1) Does it line up with God's Word?
- 2) Don't listen in a vacuum...don't go at it alone
- "...the whole church is gathered for prayer and worship and fasting. God told them, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." (Acts 13)
- "It seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us not to burden you with anything beyond the following requirements." (Acts 15:28)
 - 3) Be Humble

Because hearing the still small voice is a subjective experience, we always want to be humble about it.

Discussion Questions

- 1) Randy talked about the goal of being full of the Word and the Spirit and the importance of getting God's Word in us. Why is it so important to have his word in you? Also what does this statement mean to you: "The foundation for increasing your awareness of the voice and presence of God in your life is the Bible".
- 2) Wherever you are in your walk with Jesus this is a precious promise for us in John 10:27: "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me." Discuss what this means to you in this season of your walk with him.
- 3) In review from last week discuss the difference between "*Logos*" and "*Rhema*". (Feel free to refer to your notes above)

- "Rhema". (Feel free to refer to your notes above)
- 4) *Meditation-Revelation-Activation*: When we look at the progression of God's Word in our lives, review what each word means and how (in a practical manner) it works on a daily basis.
- 5) Please review the five points under "strategies for hearing God's voice". Although they appear to be very basic, they are essential to having a healthy foundation. Were you challenged in a fresh way or was it confirming or? Also discuss this statement: "A lifetime of transformation 30 minutes at a time"!
- 6) Lastly, please review the *safeguards* and why they are important in our walk.
 - a) Does it line up with God's Word?
 - b) Don't listen in a vacuum...don't go at it alone
 - c) Be Humble