

HOW I LEARNED
TO HEAR

God's Voice

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I've been journaling my prayers ever since I was a child. I have studied prayer for 20 years and I now teach it online.

SOPHICULTURE MINISTRIES

We mentor Christian leaders to enjoy God through email, social groups, courses and coaching at [Sophiculture.com](https://www.sophiculture.com).

THE PROBLEM

We're not being taught from the pulpit **how to have a personal relationship with God**. Instead, we're taught healthy ways of thinking.

Examples:

- concrete ways to love our neighbor
- how the gifts of the Holy Spirit operate today
- building a healthy legacy in a chaotic world

These teachings give us healthy direction for our everyday decision-making. But what about the relationship behind the decisions?



WHY IS THIS TOPIC SO UNDER-TAUGHT?

THE PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD SEEMS SORT OF HIT-AND-MISS. IT'S SO HARD TO PUT IT INTO WORDS, THAT OUR TEACHERS SOMETIMES AVOID EXPLAINING IT.

BUT, IT'S THE ONE PART OF OUR LIFE THAT DETERMINES EVERYTHING ELSE.

IT'S ONLY WHEN A CHRISTIAN KNOWS WHAT GOD IS SAYING TO THEM PERSONALLY, THAT THEY HAVE THE CONFIDENCE TO STEP OUT IN SPIRITUAL GROWTH.

WHEN A CHRISTIAN IS NOT CONFIDENT ABOUT WHAT GOD IS SAYING TO THEM, THEIR EFFORTS TO MOVE FORWARD END UP IN THE SAME OLD CYCLE OF STATUS QUO.

GOD WANTS TO SPEAK TO YOU:

Are you listening?

Here are the kinds of things that God told me when I stopped to listen:

- I can handle your stress. Just come to me and tell me what's bothering you.
- I love you. Nothing will ever stop me from loving you.
- I love it when you make time to sit and talk to me.
- I will show you the things in my heart if you want to know them.
- Don't stop coming to me if you feel unsure how I feel about you.
- I'm always ready to listen to you and help you.



HOW DID I LISTEN?

FIRST, I WROTE HOW I WAS DOING

I didn't come to God for guidance or solutions.
I just started a conversation with my friend.

THEN, I WROTE THE WORDS IN MY MIND

I asked Him what He was thinking about and then let my mind get quiet. Then, I wrote down whatever thoughts came into my head without censoring the words. I didn't worry about believing anything in particular.

EVALUATE THE THOUGHTS

After that, I learned to look at the sentence on the paper in front of me and ask myself:

- Is this something God would say if He were sitting here beside me?
- Does it comfort me or convict me of something good?
- Do I need to ask Him for more clarity about this?

*stay
engaged*

I got used to sticking with my journaling until the comfort and clarity finally came. Sometimes I would have to:

- Open my Bible to get something more solid and specific
- Take a break and come back from a different angle
- Ask my mentor what on earth God was trying to tell me
- Give up on asking God to tell me what I wanted to hear

But I always waited for feelings of truth, comfort, confidence and clarity. And I always got it by the end of the discussion.

WHAT DID I LEARN?



TO TAKE INITIATIVE

God helps us to develop natural initiative in our friendship with Him. Robotic obedience isn't His thing.

TO RECOGNIZE HIS THOUGHTS

He directs us from inside our mind, will and emotions. He uses our common sense, together with Scripture, to create a comforting temple inside of us called prayer.

TO ENJOY THE DISCUSSION

We pray in order to feel connected to Him and have fun expanding our mind with God's perspective.

WANT TO CONNECT?



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In this free Facebook group, you'll get access to our weekly offerings and new resources. This includes video trainings, personal prayer and videochat group-coaching.

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Sophiculture.com/Hear-God



Take some time to nourish your prayer life. Let this 9-page guide sharpen your connection with God. Then, make an impact. Light someone's fire by showing them how to hear God's voice.

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