## Spirit of Life Community Adventist Fellowship Pastor William Dawson "You Must LEARN To Hear The Voice Of God"

Hearing God's voice is not automatic. Many Christians assume that once they are born again, they automatically hear and understand God. The truth is when you are born again the Holy Spirit comes to live inside you as your source of communication with God. **Rom. 8:9,11,14-16,26,27.** Even with the Holy Spirit living inside you, it takes practice to become familiar and capable of enjoying all the Holy Spirit has to offer. When you get a new cell phone, MP3 or computer, there is a period of time where you are learning the full capabilities of your new equipment. The same thing is true about the Holy Spirit. You have to learn how to cooperate with Him in hearing God. You become more proficient, skillful and accurate in hearing God as you grow in your understanding of how to cooperate with the Holy Spirit.

**1 Sam 3:2-10.** Samuel had to learn to hear God's voice. Samuel was accurately hearing God but not able to recognize Him as God. At first God sounded like his spiritual leader. Because Samuel was faithful in pursuing what he assumed was coming from his spiritual leader, he could be introduced to a new level in God. **1 Cor. 15:46.** Samuel came in obedience because he thought Eli had called him. When you are faithful in attitude and action in the natural realm, God will bless you with spiritual things. When you are faithful in worship, giving, working, resting, loving, organization and other disciplined actions God will honor your natural work with a new level of spiritual understanding and clarity. You will hear God in a new way.

John 10:4-5,16. We learn to hear by hearing over and over again. It is like learning a new language or learning to talk for the first time. You have to hear over and over again before you understand correctly what is being spoken. When it comes to hearing God we are not to focus on merely "speaking/hearing" but on all forms of communication that may be used. God uses situations and circumstances to speak as much as He uses people and prophetic words. Take a moment and think about what is God trying to tell you through your circumstances?

You may "know" God's voice through hearing things in your spirit. You may "see" God's voice through visions and dreams. You may "feel" God's voice through your senses. As you read the Bible, God speaks to you. The written Word of God is the voice of God speaking to us through His prophets. To further develop your ability to hear God go to <u>www.streamsministry.com</u>. You will find a wealth of information and training to develop your spiritual ear.

Another avenue to hearing God is through praying in the Holy Spirit. **Jude 1:20.** As you pray in the Holy Spirit, speaking in an unknown tongue, the Holy Spirit prays through you and for you according to the will of God. (See Romans 8:27). My experience in speaking in tongues is it makes me more sensitive to my spiritual surroundings. It brings me a sense of comfort and assurance I would not otherwise have. At times God will give you a word of knowledge, wisdom or discernment.