

# Hearing God

## Part 2

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### Main Truth

God speaks to us through a variety of ways. The Bible becomes the “baseline” for checking in with what we believe is a leading from God.

### Scripture

And so, my children, listen to me, for happy are all who follow my ways. Listen to my counsel and be wise. Don't ignore it. —Proverbs 8:32–33 (NLT)

### Reflect

*How do I know if what I hear is from God or some other voice?*

When you believe you have heard from God regarding a situation in your life, or a direction you should take, or a decision you have to make, put the answer to these three tests:

1. Does it agree with what God has already said in His Word?
2. Will it produce the fruit of the Spirit in your life and those around you?
3. Will it draw you closer to God in your relationship with Him?

### Putting It in Practice

To answer the first question, you need to be aware of what God already has said on the subject. Understand that God will not contradict Himself. For instance, if you know that God has said, “do not steal,” then you can be sure that the voice telling you to steal what you need is not from God. So, look in the Bible to see what God has already told you on the subject in question. God will never tell you something contrary to what He has already said in His Word. If you need help, a Christian friend or pastor can help you find scripture dealing with your topic. If there is nothing, or you are unsure, ask God to reveal the truth to you.

If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. —James 1:5 (NIV)

The next two questions look to the anticipated result in the situation and in the condition of your heart.

## Reading

*James 3:14–17 and Galatians 5:19–23*

- What does the James passage tell us that the wisdom of the flesh will reproduce?
- How does that compare to the wisdom of Heaven?
- What is the fruit of the Spirit described in Galatians?
- What will “that leading from God” produce?

## Reflection

If, after asking all three questions, you still aren't sure, know that *everything* either benefits your relationship with God or weakens it. Ask yourself this last question, “Does this benefit my relationship with God?” If not, pray for the strength to say “no”.

## Application

Take a few minutes to fill out the graph on the following page. Understand that hearing from God is not a science and cannot be boiled down to lines on a piece of paper. But writing out our concerns and possible leadings becomes a valuable exercise as we seek to understand and better hear God's voice.

# Hearing God Exercise

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“And so, my children, listen to me, for happy are all who follow my ways. Listen to my counsel and be wise. Don't ignore it.” —Proverbs 8:32–33 (NLT)

My concern	What I think God is telling me	What Scripture says	What it will produce	Will it benefit my walk with God?