

THE HOLY SPIRIT



PART 8 - HEARING HIS VOICE FOR HIS INSTRUCTIONS

Holy Spirit 8 is all about hearing His voice, so we are able to work out the Father's plans through obedience. In part 7 we looked at hearing His Word for the formation of Christ's Life in us, and what goes hand in hand with this which makes up the whole, is hearing His voice for what He will have us accomplish.

John 10:27 says Jesus said *"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me."*

Are we able to discern the voice of Jesus above our own and all the other voices which are speaking? Jesus makes 3 absolute statements in this one verse, which is quite mind blowing.

He says, *"My sheep hear My voice."*

He says, *"I know the ones who hear My voice."*

He says, *"The ones who hear My voice and whom I know, follow Me."*

We see there is a corresponding obedience to hearing the voice of Jesus, when we are in fact His sheep. When you are in love with a person in the natural, doing what they ask or say, becomes a pure delight, because of the love you have for this person. This delight leads to a natural expression of obedience.

It's not something you moan or groan about or reluctantly say "do I have to?", it is 100% the opposite spirit.

This is no different when it came to Jesus and His relationship with His Father.

John 14:31 *"but so that the world may know that I love the Father, I do exactly as the Father commanded Me. Get up, let us go from here."*

Jesus heard the voice, the command of His Father, and because of His love for the Father, He did exactly as His Father told Him. Jesus' obedience to His Father's commands, was proof to the world, that He loved His Father, and it is no different for us.

The first position of obedience to what the Father calls us to through hearing His voice is motivated from love and activated by faith in Jesus Christ. This is why faith is the substance to which external works are accomplished in God. If things aren't done by faith, then they are done by flesh, and these works are burnt up at our judgement seat for reward.

Let's have a look at the second position of what we are called to through hearing His voice. A great example of this is in Luke 5, where we see Jesus informing Peter to put his nets on the other side of the

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boat, after being out all night and catching nothing.

Luke 5:4-6 When He had finished speaking, He said to Simon, “Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.” Simon answered and said, “Master, we worked hard all night and caught nothing, but I will do as You say and let down the nets.” When they had done this, they enclosed a great quantity of fish, and their nets began to break;

We know at this stage that Peter didn't love Jesus the way Jesus would teach us to love, and that Peter barely knew who Jesus really was, so Peter's obedience was motivated from discipline and activated by trust.

Through hearing Jesus' voice and the instruction, he was given, he was able to obey Jesus and put into action what Jesus said. The outcome of this was an abundance of fish, to which their fishing nets began to break.

We can in fact hear His voice and not do what He instructs, and this is clear from Matthew 9:27-31, in relation to the 2 blind men who Jesus healed, but who didn't do what they were instructed.

Matthew 9:30-31 says “And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly warned them: “See that no one knows about this!” But they went out and spread the news about Him throughout all that land.

This is direct disobedience to the voice of Jesus, and we too, can do exactly the same thing.

Our presumption trumps His instruction, which leads to an action or work from, and of, the flesh and not the Spirit. It's never about doing what we think, feel or believe is right, believing we have free reign to do whatever we wish, no matter how godly it appears.

All works which come from hearing His voice, must be inspired, empowered and led by the Spirit, for them to be a Godly work and it is these works and these alone, that get rewarded at the judgement seat. All other works, no matter how they appear will be burnt up as nothing.

QUESTIONS

1. Why is hearing God's voice and not our own so essential for external works?
2. How well do we hear His voice for these spirit led works?
3. Which heart posture of obedience do you relate to more and why?
4. Share of an example where you have heard God's voice for external works and you have seen the fruit of this obedience.

Watch this You Tube link in relation to this resource: <https://youtu.be/hoa7Wer6ZLw>