

HEARING GOD PART 2

Hearing-aids tuned to God's voice



My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. (Jn.10:27)

Last time, I suggested that we all have a prophetic gift for *hearing* God. However, we may require some tools, or “hearing-aids” in developing the art of hearing Him in prayer.

In order to cultivate this gift of *hearing* God (prophesy), we must realize that He is not limited to communicating in American English with a New England accent! As we come to know Him personally through invested time in prayer, we become more sensitive to the intuitive way He speaks to us. It is almost like learning “Windows” computer software. Once we learn “Word,” we have an instinct or intuition about how to use other software applications and the “icons” literally speak to us. One could say that our Christian software manual for hearing God is the Bible. In these pages of Sacred Scripture, we grasp the fundamentals of knowing God so as to be more tuned into hearing His word.

I often suggest that people begin reading Scripture with the Gospel of Mark. Read a chapter each day. Try not to “figure out what it means,” there are bible studies for that. Rather, see the text as a window which lets us view Jesus in a personal way. Soon we come to know His preferences and feelings and gain a foundation for intuitively understanding of His Word. Indeed, knowing someone can make a huge difference in communication. An example of this might be seen in a married couple; after a short time, they discover that the word “fine,” stated in a certain tone really means, “I disagree, but have it your way, and later you will realize the consequences!” Let’s just say that after getting to know each other better, lots of couples do come to understand the relationship between “fine” and “consequences.”

Each week, in our parish bulletin the daily Mass readings are published. In daily prayer, after taking some time to offer praise, our heart and mind will open to God’s word. Then we can read the passages of the day and *hear* God. I personally do this each day. I also keep a journal and write notes about my thoughts on the passage I read. The action of writing helps me focus and minimizes distractions. The journaling often becomes the “stuff” of my homily for the Mass. Sometimes when I write in my journal I even begin writing as if God were dictating. I begin, “Dear Moe...” and let my pen “fly.” I am often amazed by what can materialize on the page.

Pray and you will be amazed! *“The Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing; and he will show him greater works than these, so that you will be amazed” (Jn.5:20).*

While there have been thousands of books written on the subject of prayer there are some basic principles will spark your prayer life. Much of my material will be rooted in a wonderful book that is no longer published, [Appointment With God](#), Fr. Michael Scanlan, T.O.R (Franciscan University Press). It is one of the best books I have seen for outlining and forming a life of prayer. If you can find a copy via the internet it will make a great resource for your spiritual life of prayer.

....Fr. Moe