



## How to Know You Are Hearing God: Part 2

Doug Addison [Episode 142]

August 19, 2020

Hey friends, Doug Addison. Welcome to *Spirit Connection*! August 19, 2020.

And I'm doing Part 2 of a series, a 2-part series, of how to know you are hearing from God. And if you didn't catch Part 1, it's [Episode 141](#), DougAddison.com. Just go to my podcast. Also, I released this prophetic word for the month of August: [The Seer Gift and Anointing Returns](#). And so I wanna focus on really getting up to the next level on hearing God through this coronavirus pandemic we're in and the storm.

You can hear God during this time. I know I am. And I'm entering into a season, even if it might not look like it around me, you know, depending on where you are or what's going on. But you could actually create a reality that is outside of the reality of things around you. And so God wants to really bring you to the next level.

So Lord, we pray that You would open the heavens right now. We pray that You would allow us to hear Your voice. We pray for the ability to hear, to learn to discern, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Right now, you know, it doesn't matter what's happening around you. There might be distractions, there might be the enemy trying to do this or that in your life. But God's Word is still the reality. And everything that He has spoken, that He's gonna do, He *will* do it. "Though it linger," Habakkuk says, "Though it linger, wait on it; it surely will come."

Well, last week I did the [Part 1 of How to Know You're Hearing from God](#) using 5 steps for hearing God. And here's the steps. First of all is build a foundation. Do small things towards hearing God each day. That's what I do. I practice. I have a foundation built, a foundational practice, that I put into place even still after all these years, to stay sharp in hearing God. Number two is to cultivate the spiritual atmosphere. You can actually have a closed Heaven or an open Heaven. And you can open the heavens over you to be able to hear God more accurately. One way is to stop complaining and grumbling! That's what I do. That's how God showed me to do this ... is I stopped complaining and grumbling. I started focusing on forgiveness and love, and things shifted radically! The third thing, and this is what we're gonna talk about this week. Last week I talked about the first two. This week would be tracking what God is saying. Number four, learning to discern. And number five, activating it into your life.

So, what you want to do is step three: You gotta track what God is saying ... write down the vision. Habakkuk 2:2-3, "Write down the vision, make it plain on tablets that a herald may run with it. And it's for a vision is set for an appointed time; but at the end, it will speak and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait on it, for it surely will come." Now, God speaks this way. Sometimes we have to wait on things. Though it tarry, though it linger, we need to wait on the vision of the Lord, and write it down, though, so that you'll know.

Developing a lifestyle of hearing God is so important to do this and not just trying to hear God for one thing and, you know, go to a prophet for this. It's okay, but if you develop a lifestyle of hearing God, you can slow down and listen. He will speak. Discover the time that's best for you. Also, check in throughout the day. See what God is saying. I carry my phone, you know, on my phone I have an app that I can speak into. You can use anything, really, to track all the things God's saying through the day. Notice the big ideas that start coming while you're driving or taking a shower or taking a walk.

So, write it down. You know, a story that's not written down will never be remembered. And most people forget the details that they need for later. So you don't have to write every detail down. I actually start the morning by doing my voice-to-text right on my phone into a notepad-type of app. (And I'll talk about apps in just a little bit.) But you know, you need to take time and value the things God's speaking. And also, practice taking steps to what He's saying and then activating them (which we'll go into in just a minute). Activating means, really, doing something practical.

Here's some tips to gain deeper insight into what God is saying to you. First of all, you've written it down. Do some internet research on it. Or ask around. Read into books and look things up. I have some reference books next to me. I often Google things when God begins to speak. I start to Google it to see what it is. And you wanna sift through your old things, or other things that He's spoken to you. I call it *revelation mining*. Go back through and track it. Listen, here's the bottom line—history helps you to understand the present and allows you to prepare for the future. It'll change the future.

So here's some tips for tracking ... is, use something that suits your personality. If you're not a computer person, I tell ya, I have a box full of handwritten journals for years. You know, years and years I've been journaling, writing down what God spoke. And up until 2006, I wrote it down in a journal. The problem with that—it's hard to search on it, but if that's what you want, that's fine. You don't have to be like me or anybody. If, you know, computer journals allow you to actually do the searches, to cross-reference.

Here's some software. Don't get hung up on technology. Just capture your revelation. I use, because I'm on Mac, I use the MacJournal. You can just find the MacJournal online. It used to be Mariner Software, but now it's changed ownership, but it's the same guy, it's the same developer. But you can find the MacJournal online. It's very inexpensive. Operates on your Mac. They do have a little app for your iPhone. But when I was on Windows, when I had a Windows and a PC, I used for years The Journal, by DavidRM Software. That was my favorite at that time. It's been a few years. I haven't

been out there on that, but I haven't heard anything else. Then you might wanna use a free app that's called Evernote. You can download it. It's for Windows or Mac. It operates on your phone, too. Evernote's great. It doesn't have a lot of good security, anyway, as far as passwords. But you can password protect some of it.

With my personal revelation and dreams, my encounters and the things like that, I don't like to use a journal that's 100% online, that's like on the cloud. That's for my personal revelation. This is my choice. That's because you don't actually own that. A cloud-based journal can reside out there and you don't own it, and something could possibly happen to it. But then again, I do use a cloud-based app to do my writing, to do things. I track things. Here's how I do it. Right now I'm using, this is for Mac and iPhone and iPad only, sorry. But you can use this on your iPad or on your iPhone if you have one. But it's called Ulysses. It's a writing app. And Ulysses, I actually speak everything into Ulysses, then I transfer it over a little bit later in the day into my journal that resides on my computer. Then I do a bunch of backups because I don't wanna lose any of that stuff. I value this stuff. Ulysses is the speaking and writing app that I'm actually speaking off right now. I just wrote this a few minutes ago on my Ulysses app on my MacBook, and then I pop my MacBook open and I'm speaking right now off of Ulysses. So it's an amazing program that you can use. Pretty inexpensive, as well.

All right. Now, once you get it written down, once you start tracking, then you'll wanna search the matter out according to Proverbs 25:2. That's where Google is in the Bible. "It's the glory of God to conceal a matter, but it's the glory of kings to search (or Google) that matter out." And when you really think about it, when God begins to speak, you don't wanna overreact. You wanna recognize the source. And here's how you do it. How do you know if it's from God, yourself or other sources? This is very important. First of all is you write it down, the things God says, then study how it comes to you. Look at this. Was there peace in it or not? Study the ways God has spoken to you in the past. Go back to the last time that God has spoken to you or you had an answer to prayer. And study that. That's the only way 'cause that's the real and the counterfeit. You'll know

the real, not by studying the counterfeit, by studying the real. That's how you learn, you know, to recognize counterfeit money is you study the real and you recognize the counterfeit. And that's why journaling's really important. Allows you to go back and stay in touch with what God's saying.

So train yourself to identify what God is saying and how He's saying it. And then you wanna back it up with the Bible. Learn to recognize biblical principles that support what God is saying to you. You know, does it line up with the Bible? Does it violate anything? Is it like ... angry or telling you to do something that would not be of God? Those are not biblical principles, and that would help you to understand it. It comes with practice. That's Hebrews 5:14, "But solid food is for the mature who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil." And so if we constantly use our prophetic gifts, our spiritual gifts, then we won't have to worry about being deceived. People are worried about being deceived. That's one of the big ones today. That's because we haven't constantly used our spiritual gifts.

So the characteristics of a word from God—it will have elements of peace in it. It won't make you fearful. It won't be a negative voice in your head telling you you messed up. It won't violate biblical principles. And you know, the fear of God's different than the spirit of fear, by the way. Takes time to recognize that, as well. Here's some characteristics of some things that are not from God. They violate biblical principles. They're maybe harsh or angry, like I just said. Invoke hopelessness, anxiety and fear. But the characteristics of a word from ourself might be more of our own thoughts and desires. We have to be careful. Takes a while to discern this. They could be legalistic or rule-based. They could be our own ideas and trying to promote, you know, could be false confirmation.

So knowing the difference between hearing God, yourself and the enemy. First of all, practice hearing God. I just gave you the three things to watch for: a word from God, a word from ourself and a word from the enemy. You need to practice this and recognize the ways of God. That He's the God of love. He's not angry with you. Take time to test a

prophetic word. I have a little book called [God Spoke. Now What?](#) How to test. How to activate. But I go through it how to test a prophetic word. And one of the ways ... does it line up with the Bible? Has God spoken this to you before? Does it make you feel negative? Does it make you feel guilty? That's where you wanna test those things. Write it down. Ask God to reveal it to you. Get some people to pray with you. And understanding the timing, is it now or for later? Sometimes we get messed up with this.

So, get confirmation on everything that you're hearing. Don't make any major decisions on a small amount of revelation or an unclear dream. Did you hear me? You gotta be careful with that. It needs to harmonize with the biblical principles, and also it will not have fear in it. And so it might stretch you to get out of your comfort zone. Might scare you. But the spirit of fear is a little bit different than that. So God is trying to bring these things to you. He's trying to get you to understand. It just takes time.

So, step number four then, excuse me, step number five (that was four) is to activate what you're hearing. Put it into practice. Luke 6:49, "But anyone who hears My words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built his house without a foundation." So Jesus even says Himself that you need to activate these things. You need to put into practice what the Lord says. Here's four things that can get you sidetracked from that. Is not understanding, you know, the second would be over-interpreting. The third is over-responding and the fourth is doing nothing at all. So you definitely wanna try to get your breakthrough in the midst of this. And to activate those words, just do one small thing. You know, you don't have to do something big. You don't wanna go out and, you know, buy something big. You know, God spoke to you that you'd have a business, so you buy this expensive website before you have the ministry or anything. You want to do things in time, and do things in the right order, and things will flow together.

I'm gonna be going through this more a little bit later in a workshop I'm doing. But first of all, let me recap the 5 steps to hear God accurately. I covered the first two last week.

But building a foundation; cultivate the spiritual atmosphere; track what God is saying; learn to discern His voice; and number 5, activate it into your life in some way.

Lord, we pray that You would activate this into our lives. We pray that we would know the difference between ourselves, the enemy and other sources. Lord, we pray that we would hear Your voice very clearly, in Jesus' name. Amen.

I'm gonna be doing an online workshop this weekend. It's August 22<sup>nd</sup>. And it's called [\*Discern God's Voice: How to Know You're Hearing Accurately\*](#). It's to take this to the new level. I just gave you the 5 things, last week and this week is the 5 things I trained on a couple years ago on how to learn to discern. We're gonna go to a whole new level on this. And it's gonna be an exciting time. Just go to [DougAddison.com/Discern](http://DougAddison.com/Discern). You're gonna wanna catch this one.

Also, mark your calendar. This fall I'm gonna do *Launch Your Life Purpose*, the training group that will help you to go to the next level, as well.

Excited for what God's doing! See you next week.

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