



HEARING GOD'S VOICE

Making Decisions with Wisdom

WRITTEN BY

Laura Woodworth

Wouldn't it be nice...

If we could get a word from God for every situation we encounter? Preferably an audible booming voice from heaven or from someone we regard as “super spiritual” to direct our decisions to “take that job” or “marry that man” or do this or do that to relieve a difficult situation with a child or spouse or friend.



God is always speaking.

And He will speak to you! He loves it when you seek out His input, His heart on a matter.



However, we can quickly get off course if we are constantly relying on other people to supply a “word” for our situation when what we really need to do first and foremost, is to seek God’s wisdom for ourselves.

It takes an attitude.

His wisdom is available to each and every one of us. Receiving it is a matter of posture and attitude, of becoming still before Him so you can hear His voice.

“Tune your ears to wisdom and concentrate on understanding. Cry out... search for them as you would for money or lost treasure...”

(Proverbs 2:2-4 NLT)

It takes effort to gain God’s wisdom for ourselves. But we have the promise that if we seek, we will receive! The proverb continues:

“For the Lord grants wisdom! From His mouth come knowledge and understanding... and you will know how to find the right course of action every time.”

(Proverbs 2:9 NLT)



God wants to guide you.

He wants to see you succeed in every area of your life. In the New Testament, James reiterates, “If you need wisdom – if you want to know what God wants you to do – ask Him, and He will gladly tell you.” (James 1: 5 NLT)



Faith is a prerequisite.

James adds, “He will not resent your asking. But when you ask Him, be sure that you really expect Him to answer...”
(James 1: 5, 6 NLT)



Do you have faith?

Do you have faith that God will answer you and even give you specific direction on a given situation? Can you believe that God wants to lead and guide you?

Take a moment now and check your faith. Check your deep belief system.



If you think God has left you...

If you think God has left you to figure life out all by yourself – if you think He has stepped back to watch and see if you succeed or fail, rethink your view of God in light of scripture.

Reread the verses above. Pull out your bible and underline these verses and let them sink deep into your soul. Let faith arise... and then you'll be ready to approach God and ask for wisdom, truly expecting Him to answer.

With faith in your heart...

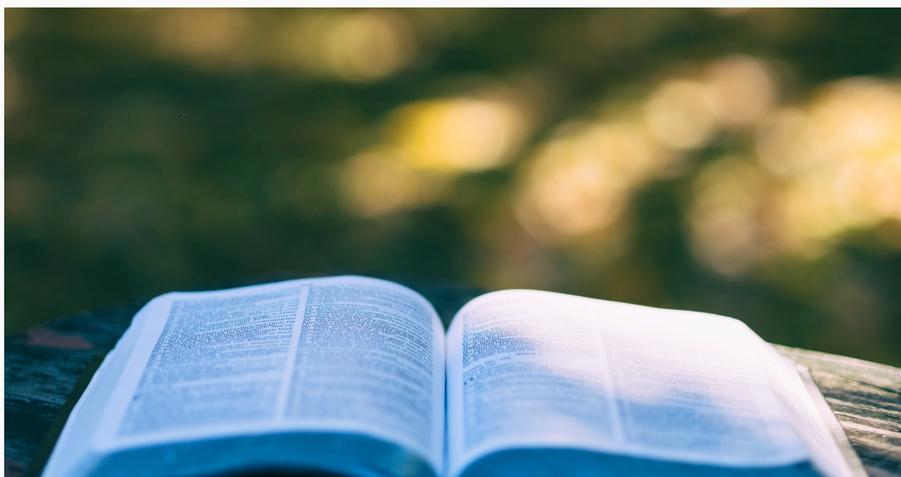
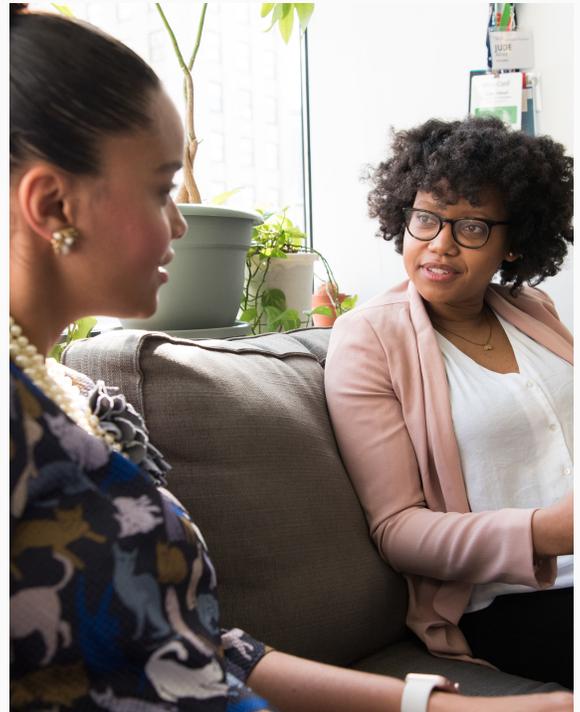
Now you ask. Now you tune your ears to hear the voice of God. He will speak! He will guide you.

The answer may come while you're driving your car and a nugget of truth or inspiration lands in your soul.

You may be reading your bible and a scripture you've read a zillion times leaps off the page.

Something may light up in your soul as your pastor preaches or a trusted friend shares.

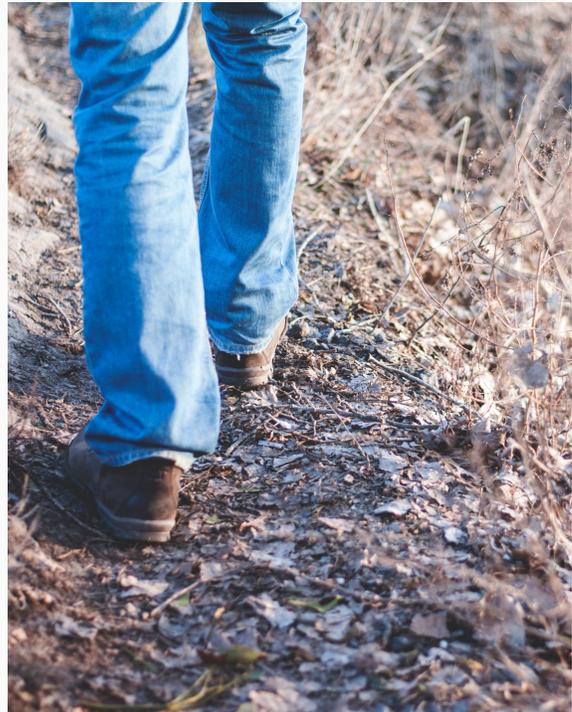
You may have a vision or a dream of what something should or could look like. You may even get that booming voice you were hoping for!



Checks and balances protect your path.

Does what you're sensing or hearing line up with scripture and God's character? Before you make a hasty decision or take rash action, run it through God's filters.

God's heavenly wisdom always brings peace and produces good fruit.



God's wisdom is pure.

“But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.”

(James 3:17 NKJV)

Does the word or image or direction you've received reflect this? Is it pure, peaceable, gentle, humble, merciful?

Let's back up a few scriptures in James and compare it to “earthly” wisdom which produces confusion and chaos.

Feeling unsettled?

“... if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth. This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual, demonic.

For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing is there.”

(James 3:14-15 NKJV)



The tricky thing is...

...often man's wisdom seems logical, but if you're feeling unsettled, re-evaluate. Look deeper.

And then, remember that God has put you in a body of believers, a family of faith. Proverbs 24:6 admonishes that “in a multitude of counselors there is safety.”

Consider the people in your life.

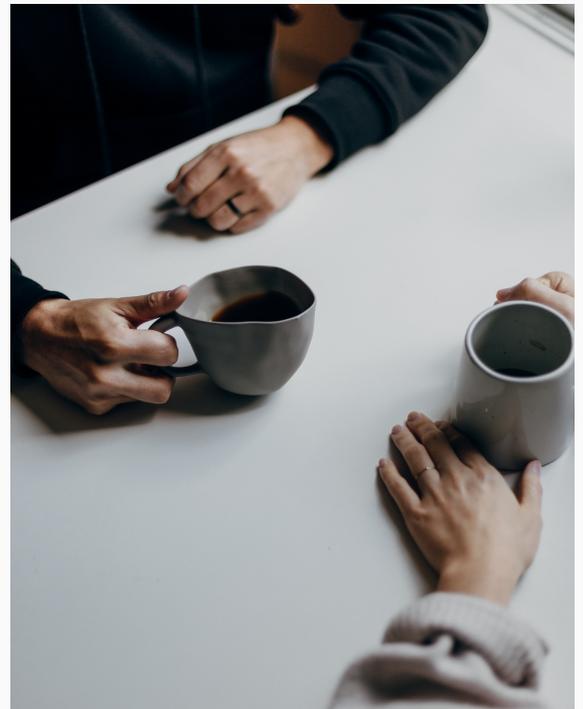
As you're learning to listen for God's wisdom – and especially for your big life decisions, seek out counsel. Seek input from trusted people, people of faith.



Before you act...

Confirm the word of the Lord before you act by using the checks and balances of His word and the community of faith.

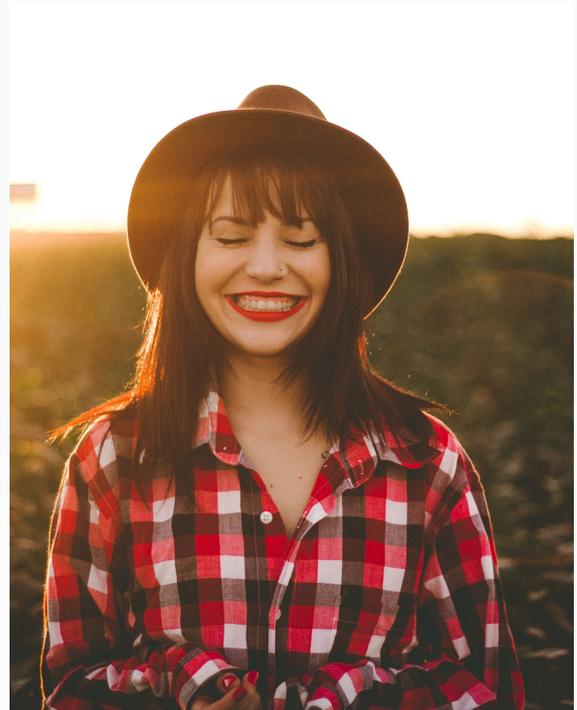
Trust God's Holy Spirit to guide you towards the wisdom that will produce good things in your life and the lives of those around you.



God is speaking.

Hearing from God is not rocket science. It's an attitude of faith and attentiveness.

It's a posture of expectation that every believer can attain, a knowing deep inside that when you cry out for God's wisdom, He will respond.



Listen for His voice.

“He will be very gracious to you at the sound of your cry; when He hears it, He will answer you... Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, ‘This is the way, walk in it.’”
(Isaiah 30:19, 21 NKJV)



Laura Woodworth Writer-Producer-Director



A multi-platform writer and screenwriter, Laura Woodworth brings a lifetime of rich and varied experience to her work and writing. Her passion is Jesus and her goal to inspire others to live lives that display God's glory and goodness.

"It's time for the sons and daughters of God to arise! You are meant to be ahead of the curve, setting the standard, establishing what will be in this world.

Your life can influence another to live for God."

- Laura Woodworth

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