

# Tommy, Can You Hear Me?

## Part 3: Listen to the Voice of Hope

**John 10:27** // My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

The past three weeks we have drawn three simple conclusions from this emphatic statement from Jesus.

- **Any child of God can hear God's voice**
- **And if you want to hear God's voice, quit looking to everyone else to hear it**
- **Allow God's Fingerprints to help you identify his voice.**

God did not call us to be led by the advice of others.

**He called us to be lead by His Spirit.**

**Romans 8:14** // For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.

**Today we will conclude by offering three simple points to help you receive direction from God:**

- **The Holy Spirit**
- **Hope**
- **Faith**

### **The Holy Spirit**

**Proverbs 20:27** // “The spirit of a man is the lamp of the LORD, Searching all the inner depths of his heart.”

God speaks and leads us from within our Spirit.

How does he do that?

### **By the Person of the Holy Spirit**

The Holy Spirit is a very real person and He is the one that Speaks to us.

**John 16:13** // Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come

**When Jesus ascended to Heaven, He sent the Holy Spirit to be with us.**

1. To live in us at the new birth
2. To fill us to overflowing with the evidence of speaking in tongues

**Both of these experiences have a part in us being able to be led by the Spirit.**

**When we have the Spirit within us and we are filled with the Spirit, we have a sensitivity to the Holy Spirit so He can speak to us.**

**Romans 8:14,16** // "14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God...16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit ..."

The way He leads us or speaks to us is by providing His thoughts that bear witness with our Spirit.

**First He provides a thought.**

Acts tell us he'll give us visions and dreams (**Thoughts**)

**Then we weight it against the Holy Spirit within us.**

Bear witness = corroborates

HE gives us that "feel good" on the inside about the thought He's provided to corroborate that the thought and direction is from God.

**This "bearing witness" is often referred to as our conscience or even our intuition.**

**This leading is defined as a still, small voice by God Himself when speaking to Elijah.**

**I Kings 19:11-12 //** “Then God said, “Go out, and stand on the mountain before the LORD.” And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice.”

**Notice that the voice of God was not in the spectacular but rather in that still small voice.**

It is only that inward still small voice that can give roots to your faith to carry you through.

**When that assurance comes in your times alone with God, I want to encourage you to do two things:**

**Embrace Hope & Let Faith motivate you to act.**

When the Holy Spirit speaks to us, it will **ALWAYS** produce hope!

If something other than hope comes from what you are hearing, then it's not the voice of God.

**What is hope?**

It's an earnest expectation that something good is up ahead.

**It's the voice of God within us that is always calling us Higher and better.**

I've heard some say that you need to be careful about getting people's hopes up.

**That limits the voice of God within people!**

**God is all about getting you to hope higher and bigger than you are imagining right now!**

**This is how he spoke to Abraham.**

**Genesis 12:1-3** // 1 The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. 2 "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

**This is the voice of Hope in Abraham's life.**

God didn't say, "those are prideful thoughts Abraham and you need to get rid of them."

**God spoke these words and it inspired a hope of great things.**

As you attempted to decipher the voice of the Spirit of God in your life, embrace the voice of Hope!

Abraham didn't wonder if this was God speaking??

**He embraced it!**

**He embraced it when everything around Him said it was impossible.**

**Romans 4:18** // Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, "So shall your offspring be."

Abraham made a choice to embrace that hopeful thought of being a father even when all natural hope said it was impossible

Why?

**Because he knew the voice of Hope was the Voice of His God!**

**Jeremiah 29:11** // For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.

**God's thought are thoughts of great futures that we all would hope for.**

**The final note of encouragement:**

Embrace that word of **Hope** until it **becomes a belief about your future that you can act upon**

**Let's talk about Faith....**

Abraham was told to move toward His Hope.

**Genesis 12:1-3** // 1 The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. 2 "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

**God told Abraham to start taking steps toward the voice of Hope.**

**A hope that is embraced but never acted upon is simply a pipe dream.**

**Hebrews 11:1** // Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Notice that faith gives substance and evidence to your hope.

As you attempt to hear God's voice, don't just embrace the hope of a better tomorrow

**Let that hope compel you to act!**

**Take faith filled steps toward that voice of God in your life.**

**As you do this combination of**

- **Spirit seeking hope filled thoughts**
- **Embrace Hope as His Voice**
- **Allowing Hope to inspire actions of Faith**

**You will produce the great and awesome future that God has planned for you!**

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