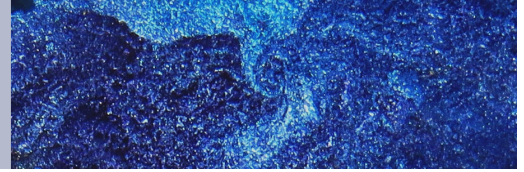


# WHEN GOD CALLS

THE POWER OF GOD'S VOICE AND HOW TO RECOGNIZE IT!



**Big Idea:** God has a voice. He speaks—and He longs to speak with you! He wants you to hear and take His call, and listen carefully to His voice. This is vital to your destiny and legacy. It brings clarity and hope, redemption and restoration to your life.

God's Word is the clearest expression of His voice. He never speaks anything that violates the precepts or principles of His Word. So we must pay attention to His Word and respond to it with faith, obedience, faithfulness and patience.

**Matthew 11:28-30 (NIV)** *Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.*

**Hebrews 3:15 (NIV)** *As has just been said: "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion."*

## Start Talking:

How well and carefully do you listen to others in your daily conversations? How do you think this might impact your ability to "listen to God"?

## Start Thinking:

**Read Genesis 12:1-3 and Matthew 4:18-22.** How does hearing God's voice help us follow Jesus and live for Him?

**Read Mark 10:46-52.** How do these verses speak to you about God's desire to redeem and restore our lives as we listen to His voice?

**Read Psalm 119:105 and Romans 15:4.** Why is it so important to understand and filter everything through the written Word of God (the Bible) in order "hear" God's voice?

**Read Hebrews 6:11-2 and James 1:22.** What kind of response does God call us to through His Word?

## Start Praying:

Pray for faith and patience to listen for God's voice through His Word and to respond in faithfulness and obedience to what He says.

## Start Doing:

Take time this week to "listen to God" as you read His Word. Perhaps you could take 10 or 15 minutes each day to tune out everything else (as much as possible) and keep your mind and heart open to what the Lord wants to impress on you from the truth you see in the Scriptures.

Mediate on what you are hearing and let it soak in beyond just the surface of your thinking. Write down what you believe God is speaking and how you're going to respond. Then look for opportunities to share with others what you are learning through this exercise of faith!