

Can You Hear Me Now?

Message Four
How to know it's God?

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Everyday schedules are so busy. They are full of noise, energy, and constant movement. Sometimes what we fail to realize is that God is always there as well. He is there with us in our chaos. He is constantly giving us His love and wisdom; however, many times we don't realize whose voice is speaking to us.

So, how do you know when a thought or idea is really from God? How do you know when it is just your own thoughts or someone has started a thinking process for you? A lot of times we may be talking to ourselves rather than hearing the voice of the Creator of the Universe. If you confuse your desires with what God wants you to do, the results can be fatal.

What you think is right road may lead to death.
Proverbs 14:12 (GN)

Don't believe everything you hear just because somebody says it's a message from God. Test it first to see if it really is.
1 John 4:1 (LB)

Here are six filters that will test an impression.

Filter #1

Does it agree with the Bible?

Heaven and earth will pass away but My words will never pass away. Luke 21:33 (NIV)

Truth stands the test of time. Proverbs 12:19 (NLT)

Filter #2

Does it make me more like Christ?

In your lives you must think and act like Christ Jesus.
Philippians 2:5 (NCV)

Filter #3

Does my community confirm it?

God's intent is that through the church the manifold wisdom of God should be made known.
Ephesians 3:10 (NIV)

In the multitude of counselors there is safety.
Proverbs 11:14 (KJV)

Filter #4

Is it consistent with how God has shaped me?

God has given each of us the ability to do certain things well... Romans 12:6 (LB)

Filter #5

Is it convicting rather than condemning?

There is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. Romans 8:1 (NLT)

Filter #6

Do I sense God's peace about it?

God's not the author of confusion. 1 Corinthians 14:33

Don't worry about anything... Tell God what you need and thank Him for all that He's done. If you do this you will experience God's peace, which is far more wonderful than the human mind can understand.
Philippians 4:6-7