

# Lesson One

## Hearing God's Voice

# Introduction

Objective: This lesson is designed to help church members be more attuned to God's voice and walk in close communion with Him on a daily basis.

It is our hope that believers will be better able to abide in Him through prayer, study, fasting and thus, hearken to God's voice.

Hearken means to listen and obey.

# Unit 4

# What Is The Desire Of My Heart?

Is my heart pure before God? I can discern what my heart's desire really is by my thoughts, words and actions. Throughout each day, I must be intentional about focusing my attention on praising Him for his attributes and thanking Him in every situation.

# A God Who Reveals Himself To Man

There are Christians who do not believe God reveals Himself to man in a visible sense because God is spirit. This is despite many passages in the Bible that say men saw God, spoke with Him face to face, saw Him in a vision, or looked upon His similitude. The idea that men cannot see God is based on:

**John 1:18 King James Version:**

*“And no man hath seen God at any time.”*

**John 1:19 Inspired Version:**

*“And no man hath seen God at any time, except he hath borne record of the Son . . .”*

**I John 4:12 King James Version:**

*“No man hath seen God at any time.”*

**I John 4:12 Inspired Version:**

*“No man hath seen God at any time, except them who believe.”*

**Psalm 14:1:**

*The fool hath said in his heart, There is no man that hath seen God.*

# A God Who Reveals Himself To Man

To equip you with evidence that God has revealed Himself to man, we want to list a number of examples that can be presented to skeptics. While some of these come from Restoration scriptures, there are a number that are found in the King James Version of the Bible.

Ether 5:40 (the brother of Jared):

*And then shall ye know that I have seen Jesus, and that he hath talked with me face to face, and that he told me in plain humility, even as a man telleth another in mine own language, concerning these things; and only a few have I written, because of my weakness in writing.*

Genesis 7:4 (Enoch in I.V. only):

*And I saw the Lord, and he stood before my face, and he talked with me, even as a man talketh one with another, face to face; and he said unto me, Look, and I will show unto thee the world for the space of many generations.*

# A God Who Reveals Himself To Man

Genesis 28:12-13 (Jacob-Israel):

*And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven; and behold the angels of God ascending and descending upon it. And behold, **the Lord stood above it**, and said, I am the Lord God of Abraham thy father . . .*

Genesis 32:24-30 (Jacob-Israel):

*And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day . . . And he said unto him, What is thy name? And he said, Jacob. And he said Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel, for **as a prince hast thou power with God** . . . And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel; **for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.***

# A God Who Reveals Himself To Man

Exodus 3:1-6 (Moses):

*Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father-in-law . . . and came to the mountain of God even to Horeb. And again, **the presence of the Lord appeared unto him, in a flame of fire in the midst of a bush;** and he looked, and behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed . . . God called unto him out of the midst of the bush . . . Moreover he said, **I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God.***

Exodus 24:9-10 (Moses):

*Then went up Moses, and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel. **And they saw the God of Israel;** and there was under his feet as it were a paved work of a sapphire stone, and as it were the body of heaven in his clearness. And upon **the nobles** of the children of Israel he laid not his hand; also **they saw God, and did eat and drink.***

Exodus 33:11 (Moses):

*And **the Lord spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend.***



# A God Who Reveals Himself To Man

Numbers 12:8 (Moses):

*With him will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches; and **the similitude of the Lord shall he behold** . . .*

Numbers 14:14 (Moses):

*And they will tell it to the inhabitants of this land; for they have heard that **thou Lord art among this people**, that thou Lord art seen face to face, and that thy cloud standeth over them, and that thou goest before them, by daytime in a pillar of a cloud, and in a pillar of fire by night.*

Deuteronomy 5:4 (Moses):

*The Lord talked with you **face to face** in the mount out of the midst of the fire.*

# A God Who Reveals Himself To Man

D & C 22:1 & 20 (Moses):

*The words of God which he spake unto Moses, at a time when Moses was caught up into an exceeding high mountain, and **he saw God face to face, and he talked with him, and the glory of God was upon Moses; therefore Moses could endure his presence. . . . And behold the glory of God was upon Moses, so that Moses stood in the presence of God, and he talked with him face to face.***

Isaiah 6:1-8:

*In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple . . . . And one [seraph] cried unto another, and said, **Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory. And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke. Then said I, Woe is me! For I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts. Then flew one of the seraphim unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar. And he laid it on my mouth, and said, Lo, this has touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged. Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.***

# A God Who Reveals Himself To Man

Ezekiel 1:25-28:

*And there was a voice from the firmament that was over their heads . . . And above the firmament that was over their heads was the likeness of a throne, as the appearance of a sapphire stone; and upon the likeness of the throne was the likeness as the appearance of a man above upon it. . . . I saw as it were the appearance of fire, and it had brightness round about . . . This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord. And when I saw it, I fell upon my face, and I heard a voice of one that spake.*

I Nephi 1:7 (Lehi):

*And being thus overcome with the Spirit, he was carried away in a vision, even that he saw the heavens open, and he thought he saw God sitting upon his throne, surrounded with numberless concourses of angels in the attitude of singing and praising their God.*

# A God Who Reveals Himself To Man

Alma 12:143 (Alma 2)

*For as sure as thou livest, behold, I have seen my Redeemer; and he shall come forth and be born of a woman, and he shall redeem all mankind who believe on his name.*

Acts 7:55-56 (Stephen):

*But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up steadfastly into heaven, and **saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God.** And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing on the right hand of God.*

# A God Who Reveals Himself To Man

## Acts 9:3-9 (Saul):

*As he journeyed, he came near Damascus, and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven. And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutes thou me? And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest; it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? . . . And they who were journeying with him saw indeed the light, and were afraid; but they heard not the voice . . . And he was three days without sight . . .*

## I Corinthians 15:3-6 (post-mortem appearances of Christ):

*For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures; and that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve; after that, he was seen of about five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present . . .*

# Reflection

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Reflect for a moment on hearing God's voice.

Is there a time when you have heard God's voice and what was the impact it had?

Is God's ongoing revelation to us part of your witness and testimony?

How do you respond when someone says that God has nothing new to say?

# Unit Summary

Summary