

Audacious Faith

A CHRIST-CENTERED BUSINESS COMMUNITY FOR WOMEN

He Speaks to My Soul

How to Tune into the Voice of God and
Discover His Will for Your Life and Business

June 5th 2017

Today I will reach
After months of struggle I am
than before and stronger

He Speaks to My Soul

How to Tune into the Voice of God and Discover His Will for Your Life and Business

If we are to build a successful business and have a blessed life, we MUST hear from God for direction, clarification, and reassurance. I hear so many businesswomen say they are overwhelmed by the many decisions they have to make every day. Some decisions seem minor and some are major, yet I find it interesting that they feel like they have to make these decisions alone.

You are not alone, and God did not call you into business for you to try and figure it out all by yourself.

This message is designed to help you tap into the divine communication connection God provides to you as His daughter. He is waiting to guide you and give you direction so you can make decisions with greater ease and peace knowing you are following the Father's plan for your life and business.

Are you ready to hear God more clearly and allow Him to be a part of every business decision you make?

Great. Let's begin.

“*Since the day He birthed the business idea within you, it has always been God's plan to be your business partner!*”

-Lethia Owens

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What Do You Expect?

Expectancy is the beginning of stronger communication with God. We need to prepare to hear God's voice. We must expect Him to speak, to respond, and give us direction when we come to Him. When we approach God with an expectation that He will be there and that He will answer, we are demonstrating our faith in Him.

Listen to my voice in the morning, LORD. Each morning I bring my requests to you and wait expectantly.. . Psalm 5:3 (NLT)

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him Hebrews 11:6 (NIV)

But you stand here with me and I'll speak to you... Deuteronomy 5:31 (ISV)

God wants you to connect with Him. He says, "stand here with me." Why does he say this? In order that He may speak with you!

In an overloaded world of digital devices, we have more ways to communicate but less communication. The shorthand communication methods we use with family, friends, or even business connections, **do not work** when it comes to God.

We can't reveal the concerns of our heart with a 120-character prayer or a clever emoji when it comes to communicating with God. We have to



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prepare our hearts and minds to really connect with Him, and when we do, we have to expect Him to answer.

Here's what I want you to do: Find a quiet, secluded place so you won't be tempted to role-play before God. Just be there as simply and honestly as you can manage. The focus will shift from you to God, and you will begin to sense his grace. Matthew 6:6 (MSG)

List 3 Things you will do to prepare to connect with God.

1.
2.
3.

Divine Communication



God calls us to be in relationship with Him.

As a result, we hear His voice and come to understand His ways.

The more we know and understand God, the closer we get to Him.

Obedience becomes a natural desire when we develop an intimate relationship with God.

The Reality - Life, love, and business can cause us to become increasingly discouraged.



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How long, LORD, must I call for help, but you do not listen? Or cry out to you, "Violence!" but you do not save? Habakkuk 1:2 (NIV)

Doubting makes it difficult to hear from God. Here are three things we can do when we find our faith wavering:

1. Go to the Word so we can be reminded of the promises and blessings of God.
2. Spend time in quiet contemplation and meditation on God's Word so He can reveal Himself to us.
3. Surround ourselves with people who can speak the Word into our lives and who will not tell us what we want to hear.

The Pain and Power of the Process

No one ever wants to go through the process, but we all want the end results.

Think about it:

- We don't want to go to the gym, but we want to lose weight.
- We don't want to eat healthy, but want to live a long life and have strong bodies.

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There is no way to bypass the pain of the process if you want to experience the power that results from the process.”

-Lethia Owens



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- We don't want to go through the ups and downs that come after saying "I Do," but we want a powerful marriage.

There is no way to bypass the pain of the process if you want to experience the power that results from the process.

Often, the learning that comes from the process God puts us through is even more important than the message we have been waiting on.

My Greatest Challenges Have Been My Greatest Gifts

During some of my most challenging times, I have learned the most and have developed a deep closeness to God that I am convinced would not have resulted in times of ease. Because of our human nature, we tend to cry out to God, depend on Him, and seek Him differently when things aren't going well than we do when everything is wonderful. When the bills are paid, money is in the bank, business is booming, and relationships are loving, fulfilling, and satisfying, we tend to sometimes forget to really seek God with our whole heart and make Him the center of our world.

But why would a good and loving God allow us to go through loss, financial hardships, worry, and fear? If He loved us, wouldn't His love prevent these things from happening? Well, no it doesn't.



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Romans 8:28 says, He “works all things together for good” for us, and that means that the trials and tribulations that we face are part of His divine plan.

Trials have a way of refining us. They help develop Godly character, and that enables us to “rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.”

“*The most challenging moments have a way of revealing what we really believe and who we really are. God already knows this, but He allows tests and trials to reveal it to us.*”

-Lethia Owens

The most challenging moments have a way of revealing what we really believe and who we really are. God already knows this, but He allows tests and trials to reveal it to us.

*Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.
James 1:2-4 (ESV)*

Challenges test our faith, and this has a positive effect in our hearts and souls!



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Describe a challenge you are currently experiencing and waiting to hear from God about.

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What, if anything, do you believe God has already revealed to you about this situation?

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If God has revealed something to you, have you acted in obedience? If not, why do you think this is?

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Obedience Will Increase the Frequency and Turn Up the Volume

When we hear from God but do not listen to His instruction, we hear from Him less often, and when we do hear from Him, the message is faint and harder to distinguish.

It's much like a friend who asks for your advice and constantly ignores it. How do you respond? That's right, you start to keep your advice to yourself.

But, when we hear from God and we listen to Him, and are obedient, we hear from Him **more often and more clearly**. We develop the ability to recognize His voice, and our hearts find delight in pleasing Him and doing His will.

Listen to God via Prayer, Meditation, and Worship

Prayer is our direct line with heaven. Prayer is a communication process that allows us to talk to God! He wants us to communicate with Him. We have a direct connection to Him that is always available. Praying is like talking to your best friend! It's easy to talk to someone when you know they love you unconditionally!



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The Passage of Prayer (from Priscilla Shirer – *Discerning the Voice of God*)

1. Me & Him – You first come to God conscious of yourself, your needs, your desires, and your thoughts. You pour these out to God.
2. Him & Me – Gradually in the prayer, you become more conscious of the presence of God than of yourself.
3. Only Him – God's presence arrests you, captivates you, warms you, and works on you.

Two-Way Journaling - The goal is to absorb, process, understand, and obey.

Two-way journaling is a biblical method that can help you grow in the discernment of the voice of God in your heart. It is basically recording your prayers and what you sense to be God's answers. The Psalms are an example of this process, as well as the books of the prophets and Revelation. It is called two-way journaling to ensure that people know it is a dialogue with God where both you and God are talking, and you are recording it all.

Meditation is the process of deliberately focusing on specific thoughts (such as a Bible passage,) and reflecting on their meaning in the context of the love of God. Meditation requires discipline, because it requires you to learn how to remain focused and refrain from trying to fill the silence.

Worship is to honor with extravagant love and extreme submission. True worship is a matter of the heart expressed through a lifestyle of holiness. It is a lifestyle that expresses the beauty of holiness through an extravagant



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or exaggerated love for God and an extreme or excessive submission to God.

One of Your Greatest Tools – The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit influences our mind, will, emotions, and bodies to desire what is pleasing to God. He is the believer's helper.

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, He will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. John 14:26 (ESV)

One of the many roles of the Holy Spirit is to give believers wisdom by which we can understand God.

When the Holy Spirit nudges you, LISTEN! Take note of what God is trying to tell you and respond in obedience.

“If you want to hear God’s voice clearly and you are uncertain, then remain in His presence until He changes this uncertainty. Often, much can happen during this waiting on the Lord. Sometimes He changes pride into humility; doubt into faith and peace; sometimes lust into purity. The Lord can and will do it.”

- CORRIE TEN BOOM



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Six ways God speaks to confirm His will

1 - He Illuminates Scripture: God turns logos (written words) into rhema (spoken words) and the Holy Spirit illumines Scriptures to you. You sense verses leaping off the page or just coming to your attention spontaneously.

*And they said one to another, “Did not our hearts burn within us, while He talked with us by the way, and while He opened to us the Scriptures?” **Luke 24:32 (ESV)***

2 - He Illuminates Thoughts in Your Mind: Spirit-led reasoning guided by the flow of spontaneous impressions from the Holy Spirit and occurs as you prayerfully ponder while your eyes are fixed on Jesus.

*It seemed fitting for me as well, having investigated everything carefully from the beginning, to write it out for you in consecutive order, most excellent Theophilus **Luke 1:3 (NASB)***

3 - He Illuminates What is in Your Heart: This is an impression perceived in your spirit. Deep inner peace or unrest is often part of this experience.

*And immediately when Jesus perceived in His spirit that they so reasoned within themselves, He said unto them, “Why reason ye these things in your hearts?” **Mark 2:8 (KJV)***

4 - He Illuminates the Counsel of Others: Your goal is to receive spiritual counsel from people exemplifying the five heart motivations of Eph. 4:11. Ask your spouse, others involved, and your spiritual advisors for input as to what they sense the heart of the problem is, and what solution will fully address it.

*Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counselors there is safety. **Proverbs 11:14 (KJV)***



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And His gifts were [varied; He Himself appointed and gave men to us] some to be apostles (special messengers), some prophets (inspired preachers and expounders), some evangelists (preachers of the Gospel, traveling missionaries), some pastors (shepherds of His flock) and teachers. Eph. 4:11 (AMPC)

5 - He Illuminates an Understanding of Your Life's Experiences: God will give you revelation as you seek Him and will give you insight and understanding concerning your life's experiences.

Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Matthew 7:16 (KJV)

6 - He Illuminates Revelation Through Dreams, Visions, Songs, Prophecy and Journaling: You will receive direct revelation from God through these channels. Journaling is especially helpful because it is writing out your prayers, listening for God's answers, and recording them. (Many times we forget!)

“And it shall come to pass in the last days,” saith God, “I will pour out of My Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.” Acts 2:17 (KJV)

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Focus on developing a closer relationship with God, not just on hearing from God.

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