

2nd Part of Hearing God Speak

by Mark Partin

God uses various methods to get our attention, including a restless spirit, unanswered prayer, and unusual circumstances, in order to bring us into a deeper dependence on Him.

Scripture: Exodus 3:2, James 4:3, 1 Peter 3:7, 1 John 3:22, 1 John 5:14

Topics: "Hearing God", "Spiritual Guidance"

Description

Mark Partin preaches on how God gets our attention, emphasizing the importance of being alert to God's voice and message. He highlights that God uses various methods to capture our undivided attention, such as a Restless Spirit stirring within us, speaking through godly people, blessing us in unusual ways, or through unanswered prayers that lead to self-examination and dependence on God. Partin stresses the significance of recognizing God's presence in every circumstance and being attentive to His voice, even in times of failure, financial collapse, tragedy, or affliction.

Transcript

Exodus 3: 1-2

1Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.

2And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.

How does God get our attention? Often times while watching sporting events on television you will see people in the crowd and they may have their faces painted, they may have no shirts on, they may be wearing crazy hats. It is all for the purpose to be seen on television, it was all for the purpose to get our attention.

When you think about it God has ways of getting our undivided attention. When God speaks to us He wants us to receive His message because His truth is so important. He deserves our full attention. When you and I walk in the Spirit we are alert to God, the problem is we don't always walk in the Spirit. The problem is some times we choose to do our own thing and go our own way. If God speaks we are not hearing him because we are not paying attention. God is aware of this and has many ways of getting our total undivided attention.

That is what God did with the burning bush. He slowed Moses down and got his attention, so God to tell him something. How does God get our attention today? One way is through a Restless Spirit, he stirs us from within. You can't put your finger quite on what it is but something is going on inside and you don't understand it. There is uneasiness in your heart. Restlessness gets us to listen to the voice of God.

When King Ahasuerus in Esther chapter 6 could not sleep he had them bring in the books of the Kingdom's history for him to read. When he read them he found that Mordecai had saved his life. In the process God used this event to establish Mordecai, to establish Esther to save all the people because God sent a restless spirit to King Ahasuerus.

God speaks to us through others, through Godly people. Some times God speaks through people that we know and love. Some times God speaks to us through people that we may not even expect Him to speak to us through.

When Rehoboam son of Solomon came to the throne the council of the elders was good; lighten the load; but Rehoboam would not listen. He listened to his younger friends and ended up splitting a nation. At that moment he missed the voice of God speaking to him through the elders. Some times we miss the voice of God speaking to us through others because we have predetermined what we already want.

How does God get our attention? Some times by blessing us in a most unusual way, we enjoy things. It can be a spiritual blessing; it can be a financial blessing, a physical blessing it just gets piled on us more and more. God can not use this method for everyone; selfish people become more self-centered and it destroys them. Sometimes God gets our attention through unanswered prayer. As long as our petitions are being granted we keep on going; however, when a urgent need goes unmet and heaven is silent God gets our attention. Silence causes us to have a self examination; we start to ask ourselves am I asking for the wrong reason as James 4:3 tells us. Is there disobedience in my life as 1 John 3:22 shows us? Am I asking out of the Will of God as 1 John 5:14 expresses? Am I insensitive in my marriage as 1 Peter 3:7 shows? Unanswered prayer can bring us in to a new dimension of dependence upon God.

God uses unusual circumstances to turn our eyes and hearts to Him. The burning bush definitely got Moses attention it broke up his daily routine. We have to learn to live for and look for the presence of God in every circumstance; because God is sovereign and every thing that occurs is according to His plan and for reasons. God knows how to get our attention sometimes it can be a failure. He got Israel and Joshua's attention when they fell in the battle of Ai. Sometimes it may be a financial collapse; sometimes it is a tragedy; sometimes it is a sickness or affliction. God cares enough to use methods to cause us to stop and listen to Him. Are we listening to God?

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