

Single & Single-Again TUES NITES Meal, Message & Mixer

Hearing God's Voice

Janie Stolz' video teaching, handout, and audio Mp3 file of this message will be online to share with others at www.christiansinglesindenver.com

"Get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls." (James 1:21 NLT)

Three Mental Barrier's to Hearing God's Voice

If you really want to hear from God you have to understand what is keeping you from hearing from God.

James 4:1-6 1 What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? 2 You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. 3 When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures. 4 You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. 5 Or do you think Scripture says without reason that he jealously longs for the spirit he has caused to dwell in us? 6 But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

1. P _____

- Selfish Pride

Symtoms:

Lust

Consumption

Friendship with the World

Envy

The source of pride is our sinful heart. It happens when we elevate our heart to a place that only God should occupy.

Practical Solutions for Selfish Pride

1. Resist the Devil
2. Draw Near to God
3. Humble Yourself

2. F _____

There is one kind of fear God wants us to have. In Deuteronomy 5:29 the Lord exclaims: "O that their hearts would be inclined to fear Me and keep all my commandments".

II Timothy 1:7 clarifies this, explaining that "God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and self-discipline".

3. B _____

When you hold on to hurt, resentment, or a grudge, then you're not going to be able to hear God, because your heart is hardened. It has grown cold and made you defensive, even to God's love.

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Bitterness will:

1. **D** _____ you Spiritually
2. **D** _____ you Physically
3. **D** _____ you Emotionally
4. **D** _____ Fellowship
5. **D** _____ your Relationships
6. **D** _____ you of a Blessing

Discussion Questions:

- How do you hear God's voice? In what ways has he spoken to you?
- **What changes do you need to make in your life so that you can get rid of the "filth and evil" and hear God's voice?**
- Why do you think we sometimes equate hearing God's voice with religious fanaticism?
- **What is one important thing you took away from the lesson tonight personally?**

HELPFUL TIPS for Great Table Discussions

**Each table should have a designated
Table Host.**

Use God's ear-to-mouth ratio:

Listen two times more than you speak. 1 or 2 people should not dominate the time, and EVERYONE should contribute during the discussion.

1. **Smile and be friendly.**
Avoid excessive complaining about people or personal problems.
2. **God's grace rules the day**
Recognize that everyone will not always agree – be gracious and give grace to one another. People are at different places in their spiritual walk and in their life journey.
3. **Moving the discussion along.**
Table host/facilitators are to move the discussion along. They have permission to limit any negative comments, to invite people to answer a question, to ask someone for their perspective, to limit the amount of time some people speak, and to move on to the next question.
4. **Help for the hurting:**
This is a supportive group, but it is not a support group or a therapy session. But if someone is really hurting, take a moment and have someone in the group specifically pray for them.