

Personal/ Small Group Sermon Study

Soul Shift Series: From Ask to Listen

A shift in posture from asking others to listening to God

Week of May 6, 2018 A.D.

As followers of Christ, we are to make a shift from asking for the advice of other people to seeking and obeying the voice of God.

Read Genesis 1:26 – 28

1. Read verse 26. Why did God create man? Read verse 27. What does it mean for man to be “created in the image of God”? Read verse 28. Did God create man to rule over humans? Who is supposed to rule over humans? How are humans to experience that rulership? Please explain your answers.

Read Genesis 2:15 – 17; 3:8 – 11

2. God and Adam knew each other personally and face-to-face. What does this tell you about the relationship which God intended for man to experience with God? Has God abandoned His desire for that kind of relationship? Please explain your answer.

Read Genesis 3:21 – 24

3. Who brought sin into the world – Adam and Eve? or God? Would you rather live (a) in the present world where mankind is physically separated from God or (b) in the perfect world-to-come and in a personal, face-to-face relationship with God forever? Why? Please explain your answers.

Read John 1:10 – 13

4. In these verses, the pronouns “He” and “him” are a direct reference to Jesus. Why did Jesus come to earth? Has that purpose been fulfilled? If so, how? If not, why not? Please explain your answer.

Read John 3:3 – 8; 4:24

5. Are all Christians “born again”? Do all Christians have the Holy Spirit of God alive within them? If so, does the indwelling presence of the Spirit of God mean that Christians can speak to and hear from God? Please explain your answers.

Read John 17:13 – 19

6. “Sanctify” means to become holy and/or to be set apart from the world to be used for the purposes of God. Are humans by nature “sanctified”? Can humans be “sanctified” without becoming different from (a) non-believers and (b) the person we were before we knew Christ? See verse 17. What is the only way for a person to be “sanctified”? Please explain your answers.

Read John 16:12 – 15

7. What is the role and the purpose of the Holy Spirit in the life of a believer in Christ? How does a believer “hear” the Holy Spirit? Can a person hear the Holy Spirit when that person is pursuing his or her “own agenda” apart from the will of God? Please explain your answers.

Read John 8:42 – 47

8. Will God the Father, God the Son, or God the Holy Spirit ever tell a lie? Do all lies and all falsehood come from the devil? See verse 47. Are all Christians expected to hear what God says and to obey God? Please explain your answers.

Read Isaiah 55:8 – 11

9. Does God’s Word ever fail to achieve His intended purpose? How can a person know the thoughts and ways of God? Will the thoughts and purposes of God always produce good results for the people of earth? Will each person be held accountable before God for his or her failure to keep and/or obey the will of God for their life? Please explain your answers.

Read 2 Timothy 3:12 – 17

10. What are the benefits of Bible study and memorization of Scripture in the life of a believer? Can a believer consistently know and follow the will of God without having a daily time alone with God in Bible study and prayer? How much time do you spend daily with God in Bible study and prayer? How much time do you spend each day on the phone, texting, watching television, and/or on the computer? Do you want to know God and to walk and talk with God like Adam did in the Garden of Eden? If not, why not? If so, what is your plan of action to do so? Please explain your answers.

Read John 14:23 – 27

11. In these verses, does Jesus leave any room for a Christian not to love God and/or not to seek, learn, and obey God’s teaching? Please explain your answer. Please express aloud (in your own words) what Jesus is teaching here.

Read John 10:25 – 30

12. What does it mean to listen to the voice of Jesus? Do we have an obligation to learn how to distinguish the voice of Jesus from every other voice that exists? In your opinion, what are the best habits for a believer to have in order to hear and to obey the voice of Christ? Please explain your answers.

Consider: God loves us. He wants us to enjoy our lives to the fullest by having a personal one-on-One relationship with Him through faith in Jesus the Christ. God knows us, He loves us, and He wants us to love and enjoy Him. “You think about that.” Amen.