

Thriving in Uncertain Times

Week 6: Listen

Daniel 5



1. React to this statement: "God is like a radio station constantly broadcasting his divine character and plan (Psalm 19:1,2; Romans 1:19,20) This issue is not that God isn't speaking, it is that too often we are not tuned into the station."
What are some of the things that affect our tuning in? What helps you tune in?
2. God speaks to people in a multitude of ways – visions, dreams, messengers/prophets, His Word, audible voice, promptings/nudges, circumstances. What other ways can you add to that list? Can you tell a story from your own life, or that you have heard about how God spoke in one of these ways?
3. What are the most common ways that God speaks to you? What are some of the things God speaks to us about? (i.e. John 16:8, Acts 16: 6 – 10) How have you experienced God's speaking to you?
4. Mediums, horoscopes, palm readers, psychics have become prevalent in our society. What motivates people to seek direction in these ways? Why do you think God tells his people to steer clear of them? (see Lev. 19:31, Isaiah 8:19) What do we have as Christians that makes these things so unnecessary?
5. Today there are people/groups/cults who believe God gives new revelation that supersedes the old. What is the danger of that? How do you answer someone who claims a new "revelation" or "God spoke to me..." ? How does Hebrews 1:1- 3 speak to that?
*In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways,
2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. 3 The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.*
6. "Revelation" is where God reveals something new or more about his character and plan. "Illumination" is where God brings fresh and/or specific understanding to His Word for our specific situation. Daniel "illuminated" the meaning of dreams/writing on wall that God gave. Tell of an experience when God illuminated his Word to you?
7. Pastor Kevin tells the story of a harbor with 3 lights. When all the lights align you are on the right track and can enter the harbor safely. What "lights" can we use to distinguish God's voice? (John 10:27) Why is alignment important?