

## HEARING FROM GOD

WITH JIM LAFFOON

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### Understanding the Still Small Voice

- The average leader gives his attention to whatever is shaking or on fire, but Elijah gives his attention to the still small voice in the middle of everything.
- In the middle of crisis and change, can God get your attention?
- God spoke to Elijah with a whisper in the middle of crisis and change.
- A whisper demands attention and for us to be truly listening.

"Whatever happens in your church starts with you." - *Jim Laffoon*

### Quieting Our Soul

- It is natural to sense God's presence while on stage or during dynamic situations, but it is essential to develop a connection with God in personal moments and in our prayer time.
- Quieting your soul is a discipline and skill, not a natural gift.
- How do we quiet our soul?
  - One way is to remove distractions like your phone or social media.
  - The other way is to practice stillness in the middle of busy or loud situations, like on an airplane, until you feel God's presence.
  - Make time daily to remove distractions and practice stillness in the noise.

"If you don't practice stillness when it doesn't matter, when that crisis comes, when that shaking comes, when that fire comes, you won't be able to hear Him." - *Jim Laffoon*

### Different Ways God Communicates

- God communicates through Scripture, gentle whispers, and visual imagery, but he can also communicate viscerally by sharing His feelings with you.
  - This could be feeling His peace, joy, confirmation, warning, etc.

"If God needs to get a hold of you, can He?." - *Jim Laffoon*

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- Sometimes we don't hear God speaking with us because we are too busy on the inside, and if we wait too long, God might move on.
- When you feel God prompting you it's important to stop and ask "What do you want?" or "What do you need?" If He doesn't answer, just let His peace and presence cover you.
- God can use your imagination to talk with you; so keep your imagination clean.

"The voice of the Holy Spirit is your greatest counselor." - *Jim Laffoon*

### Guarding Your Conscience and Avoiding Distractions

- Technology is helpful, but constant connectivity can prevent connection.
- Guard your conscience to stay sensitive to God's conviction and confirmation.
- It's important to be conscious of our media consumption and maintain a focused mind.
- If you truly want to develop a connection with God and have conversations with Him, work to develop a friendship with Jesus.
  - God spoke to Moses like a man speaks with his friend.
  - Once you have had God's presence, you won't be able to get enough of it!

"I want to keep my conscience exfoliated." - *Jim Laffoon*

### Discussion Questions

See the next page for Discussion Questions that will help you and your team get the most out of this episode!

### RESOURCES

- [GrowLeader Regionals](#)
- [Monthly Mentoring](#)
- [Join us for 21 Days of Prayer](#)
- [21 Days of Prayer Resources](#)
- [Pray First App](#)
- [Previous Episodes + Show Notes](#)
- [Free Church Resources](#)
- [The Wesleyan Investment Foundation](#)
- [Compassion International](#)



**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

Keep growing to reach your full potential by asking yourself and your team these questions:

**Understanding the Still Small Voice**

1. What are you focused on? Whether good or bad, be honest and list what's on your mind.

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2. In the midst of those items, have you heard God's whisper? How can you create space for Him to speak with you?

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**Quieting Our Soul**

1. When and where do you sense God's presence the most? What steps can you take to hear from Him in both dynamic and quiet moments?

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2. Since stillness is a skill, what steps can you take to further develop this skill?

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3. What distractions can you remove? What loud moments can you practice stillness in?

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**Different Ways God Communicates**

1. If God needs to get a hold of you, can He? How can you cultivate a more receptive heart?

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2. When was the last time God got your attention? How does He normally speak with you?

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**Guarding Your Conscience and Avoiding Distractions**

1. How can you become more intentional with what you allow into your mind / conscience?

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2. How does your relationship with Jesus influence your ability to hear His voice?

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3. How can you deepen your relationship with Jesus? List a couple steps and describe how you will start talking with Jesus as a close friend.

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