

SOME CHECKPOINTS TO HELP CLARIFY IF WHAT YOU ARE HEARING IN PRAYER IS GOD VOICE

- 1) Does what you're hearing fit any scriptural stories or patterns?
- 2) Are you familiar with the tones and characteristics of the other "voices" usually present within you? (If so, then you can use the process of elimination to help determine what God's voice sounds like)
- 3) Is the thrust positive? God does not just give negatives. If God says "No" to one path it is usually to say "Yes" to another.
- 4) Check for personal motives (especially unobvious motives) for why you might be hearing what you are hearing.
- 5) Does the idea or ideas keep coming? At odd moments? With a soft and persistent (but not insistent) urgency?
- 6) Is it raucous, demanding, "loud," threatening, guilt-producing? If so...it's not God.
- 7) THE HUNCH/PEACE – What is your emotional response to what you are hearing? And then...why do you think that is your emotional response?
- 8) The Living God is unpredictable - SURPRISE! If what you're hearing is outside your comfort zone that makes it more likely you're hearing at least some of what God is communicating to you. (Note: This surprise thing often interferes with #7 – it's hard to feel peace and be surprised at the same time).
- 9) Four days in a row – God, though persistent, is patient and will keep bringing to you what it is that you need to see.
- 10) MENTOR/PRAYER PARTNER – We are made to hear in community. Keeping your prayer life private handicaps your ability and the faith community's ability to hear God.