



The Still Small Voice of God

DEVELOPING A CONVERSATIONAL
RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

How Has God Spoken?



1. A Phenomenon plus a voice
2. Angels
3. Dreams and Visions
4. An audible voice
5. The human voice – God speaking through a person – caution: I have a word from God
6. By Holy Spirit, in a still, small, inner voice

What is The Still Small Voice?

- ▶ Samuel, Elijah learned God speaks quietly
- ▶ In 1 Kings God's speaking was described as "a low whisper"
- ▶ It is unremarkable, inconspicuous, unassuming
- ▶ Just because we don't hear it, doesn't mean God is not speaking to us.
- ▶ God speaks to us by the Holy Spirit interacting with our mind, revealing God's thoughts to us

► Prov.20:27; John 17:20-23

1 Cor.2:9-13,15,16 -But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him” these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. “For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

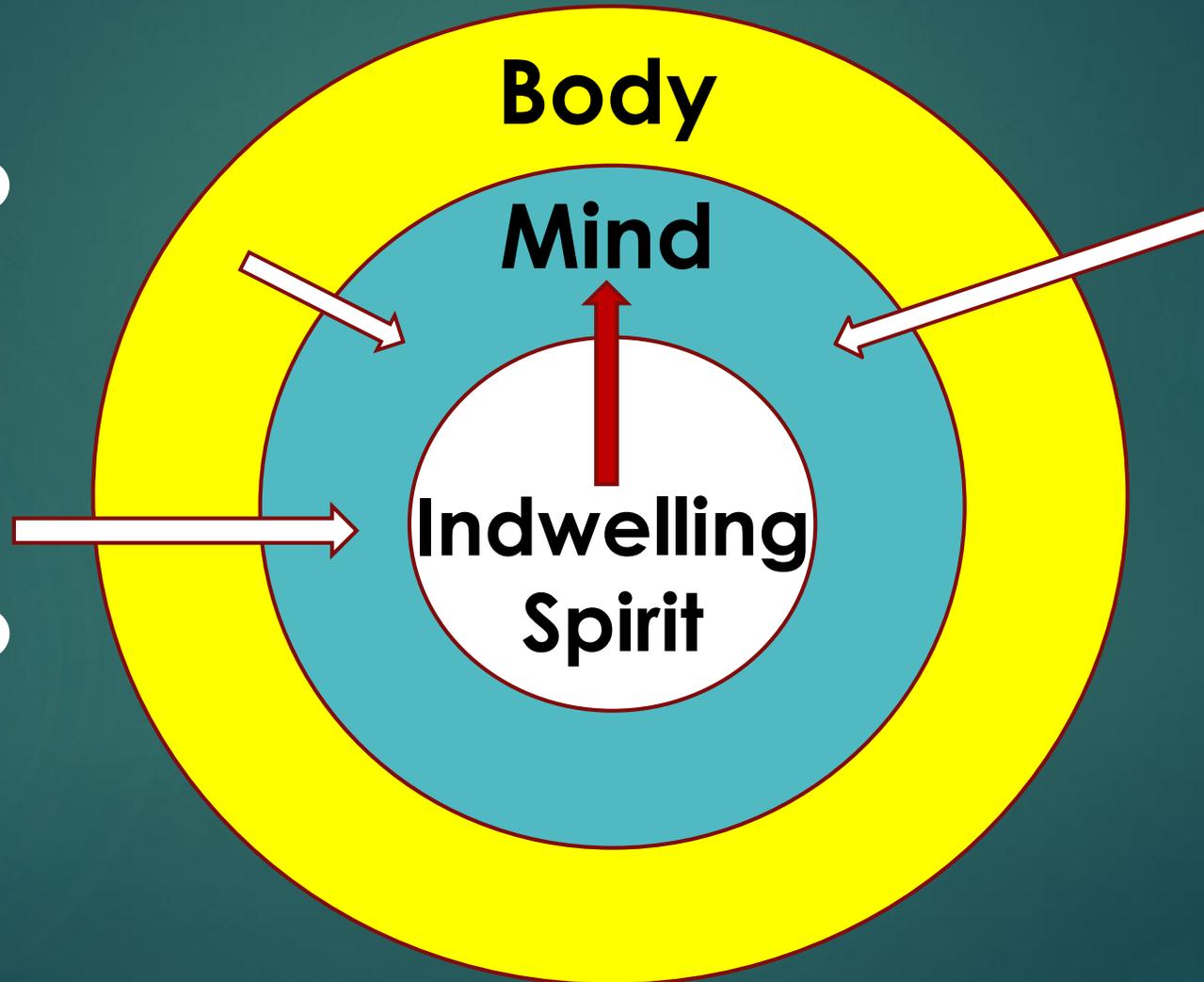
The Ministry of The Holy Spirit

- ▶ Jhn 14:16,17 He is called, Helper, Spirit of Truth
- ▶ 17 – We know him for He dwells with and in us
- ▶ 26 – He will teach us all things and bring to remembrance all Jesus has said
- ▶ 15:26 – He proceeds from the Father and bears witness about Jesus
- ▶ 16:12-15 – He will guide you into all the truth whatever He hears He speaks to us

The Ministry of The Holy Spirit

The body
appeals to
the mind

The world
appeals to
the mind



The Devil
speaks to
the mind

The
Indwelling
Spirit
Speaks to
the mind

Discerning The Still Small Voice

- ▶ This is a process of learning to hear – Mat.7:7
Ask, Seek, Knock! What was Jesus saying?
- ▶ Heb.5:14 – Why is the solid food tied to discernment?
- ▶ Acts 10:9-16- Notice God engages the mind and the values; First character and values, then ministry

Discerning The Still Small Voice

- ▶ Vs.17- God does not always tell us what to do, but wants, through the Holy Spirit to actively engage the mind
- ▶ Vs.19- how did the Spirit speak? I believe that when we read, “the Spirit said”, we should read it as being the inner voice, unless it specifically states others heard it.
- ▶ Vs.19- The Spirit told Peter to go, but not why.

Discerning The Still Small Voice

▶ Acts 16:6-10

- ▶ 6 “Having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit”
- ▶ 7 “the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them”
- ▶ 9 A vision calling them to Macedonia.
- ▶ What is the connection with the previous verses
- ▶ What is their response?
- ▶ Disobeying or ignoring the Spirit is “quenching” the Spirit – 1Thes.5:19 – do not quench the Spirit

Discerning The Still Small Voice

- ▶ The Spirit speaks more to those who listen and obey and less to those who do not obey
 - ▶ Matt.25:28-29- For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.
- ▶ 2Cor.10:5 – Pay attention to “random” thoughts- Ask God if this is of Him

Discerning The Still Small Voice

- ▶ Eph.4:3 – Maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4:1-6 Submit to the Spirit
- ▶ 1John 1:6-7- If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.
- ▶ Individually following Jesus, together.
- ▶ Heb.5:14 - It takes practice.

How Do I Hear God Speak to Me ?

1. Scripture gives the WHO and HOW of God
2. Like Samuel, tell God you want to hear
3. Ask God for direction – situations and people
4. Expect God to answer. Think about thoughts
5. Submit and Act in Obedience
6. God invites you into a conversational relationship with Himself. Will you join Him?