

Sermon Notes: Tuned IN

Amos 3:7 *“Surely the Sovereign Lord does nothing without revealing his plan to his servants the prophets. We live in a world that is full of busy-ness and clatter. People are distracted and unable to hear the still, small voice of God as he speaks to them. What about you? Are you tuned in to God’s voice? Do you hear him when he speaks to you? Are you listening? The first thing you have to do to hear God’s voice is to **Tune In**.*

James 1:19, 20 *“Therefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God. This passage of scripture follows one in which James talks about the trials and temptations of the lives that you and I face. It is during these critical times of our lives that we need to be attentive to hear the voice of the Lord. If you’ve tuned in to God, it doesn’t matter what’s going on around you; you can hear Him speak. There are a number of ways that God can speak to you.*

A. God speaks through His written Word (Logos).
2 Timothy 3:16, 17 *“All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”* **Psalms 119:105** *“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.”* You first learn how to hear from God by following His written word. If you can’t follow what He’s written in His word, chances are you can’t follow His audible word.

B. God speaks through the Five-fold ministry.
Ephesians 4:11-12 *“And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:.”* Whenever you sit in a service like this, on on a Wednesday night, you’re hearing from God. He speaks through your youth pastor, He speaks

through your pastor on Sunday; and he speaks through other ministers and teachers.

C. God speaks through the Holy Spirit (Rhema).

Romans 8:16 *“The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.”* This is also known as the inward witness or inward intuition. The Holy Spirit will verify that you're doing the right thing or going the right way. If you're going in the wrong direction, or making the wrong decision, you'll feel uneasiness on the inside, and that's the Holy Spirit letting you know something's up.

D. God speaks through the inward voice or the conscience. **Romans 9:1** *“I speak the truth in Christ--I am not lying, my conscience confirms it in the Holy Spirit--,”* Have you heard of the “still, small voice”? This is it. It's not real strong and overwhelming saying, “DON'T DO THAT!” It's your own spirit speaking to you, and it mostly speaks in just a word or a phrase. Maybe if you're planning on doing something or going somewhere, the inward voice may say, “Wait,” or “Not Yet,” or “Stop.”

What if I am listening, but not hearing? It is then that you must practice patience. **Isaiah 40:31 (KJV)** *But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.* One of the hardest things for us to do is wait. We think we must be doing something. But that is when we miss the voice of the Lord because of distractions or busy-ness, or maybe trying to reason things out. The closer you get to the Shepherd, the louder His voice will be. *“Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.”*