



TALK IT OVER

How Can I Hear From God?

Hey God! - Week 1

Pastor Andy Wood

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If you would like to watch the weekend message, visit www.saddleback.com/watch.

Open your group in prayer and remember that this is only a guide. Feel free to discuss each of the questions provided or simply dive deeper into just one. Before you close with prayer, take a few minutes to look over the Three Essential Questions toward the end of the document.

Scriptures

1 Samuel 3:1–11, Matthew 4:4, Psalm 46:10, Psalm 103:8, Jeremiah 29:13, Jeremiah 29:13, Hebrews 4:12

Questions

1. How does God speak to you? (A thought, an impression, scripture, peace, conviction, small group, etc.) How do you know it's his voice? Share a time where God spoke to you clearly.
2. 1 Samuel 3:6–11 (NIV) says, "Again the Lord called, 'Samuel!' And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am; you called me.' 'My son,' Eli said, 'I did not call; go back and lie down.' Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord: The word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. A third time the Lord called, 'Samuel!' And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am; you called me.' Then Eli realized that the Lord was calling the boy. So Eli told Samuel, 'Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.' So Samuel went and lay down in his place. The Lord came and stood there, calling as at the other times, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Then Samuel said, 'Speak, for your servant is listening.' And the Lord said to Samuel: 'See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make the ears of everyone who hears about it tingle.'" How do we grow familiar with God's voice? How do other believers help us hear God's voice? Reflect on a time when God spoke to you. How did you respond and what were the results?

3. Hebrews 4:12 (NIV) says, *"For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."* Why do you think we hear from God and learn to recognize his voice mainly by reading the Bible? How does his word speak to us individually?
4. In 1 Samuel 3:1–11, Samuel responded to God's voice, "Speak, for your servant is listening." How is a willingness to obey God an important part of hearing God speak?
5. Psalm 46:10 (NIV) says, *"He says, 'Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.'"* Why do you think God tells us to "be still"? What helps you to be still and hear from God more clearly? What's drowning out God's voice? (Busyness, social media, self-doubt, fear, etc.)
6. Jeremiah 29:13 (NIV) says, *"You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."* According to the passage, how can we know God? Do you really want to hear from God even if it challenges your current plans or comfort zone? Why or why not?
7. Reading the Bible helps us to discern God's voice. What steps can you take to make Bible reading a part of your everyday life? What habits, distractions, or comforts do you need to lay down to create space to hear God more clearly?

Three Essential Questions

The following questions are intended to be open-ended and encourage members to consider how they felt and what they, or the group, can do as a result of hearing the message.

1. **What did you hear?** *What point in this message was most impactful for you?*
2. **What do you think?** *How did this message challenge, change, or affirm your thinking?*
3. **What will you do?** *How will you or your group put into practice what you've learned today?*

Small Group Action Steps

1. Consider taking the Group Health Assessment in your small group. This assessment will help you see how your small group is balancing the five purposes and will give you suggested next steps for each purpose. Click here to take the Group Health Assessment:
<https://saddleback.com/connect/smallgroups#spiritualCheckup>
2. Did you know that Saddleback produces many new small group studies each year? Visit <https://saddleback.com/studies> to check out Saddleback's ever-growing library of small group curricula.

Are you interested in the Bible and in helping small groups benefit from the weekend message? Well, you are in luck! Saddleback members like you create these discussion guides each week. If you are interested in joining the team, please email Maturity@saddleback.com