

PREFACE BY ÉRIC CÉLÉRIER
AUDIO RECORDINGS BY GRANT FISHBOOK

# Preface by Éric Célérier

I highly recommend the audio guide, "21 Days of Listening to God's Voice." I really appreciate its content as well as its format. For a little background, when I was visiting the island of Réunion, I personally challenged David Théry to create this guide. I myself had developed an audio guide called "21 Days through the Lord's Prayer," and I know from experience how much this has helped thousands of people grow in their relationships with the Lord. So I told David, "It would be amazing if you could make a guide to help God's children hear His voice. It would bless them so much!"

Just consider this!

We have the Bible today because men and women heard God's voice.

King David composed some of the most beautiful Psalms in the Bible because he heard God's voice.

Our lives can be enriched by the wisdom of the Proverbs because Solomon heard God's voice.

The people of Israel received the 10 Commandments because Moses heard God's voice.

Mary knew she was going to bring the Savior into the world because she heard God's voice.

The voice of God also led Noah to build an ark, Abraham to have a son, Joshua to conquer the Promised Land, Deborah and Gideon to drive back Israel's enemies. And the examples could go on and on...

And what about the prophets who spoke on behalf of God? They had to hear God's voice first.

Yes, God speaks!

Job 33:14 says, "For God may speak in one way, or in another, yet man does not perceive it."

Imagine what would happen if you could discern God's voice...

The Lord would guide your choices,

He would show you the way to go,

He would comfort you when you need it...

He would give you wisdom in any given situation...

Yes, God speaks in many ways, but in every case, hearing His voice is extraordinary.

That's what this audio guide, created by Pastor David Théry, offers us. David has already written about this subject. He's the author of the excellent French book À *l'écoute de Dieu* (meaning *"Listening to God"* in English). Not only has he developed this spiritual acuity, but he teaches it to others. Thousands of people have been blessed by his teachings.

This audio guide is different than a book or a course. It's a bit like David is taking you by the hand and saying, "I know that it seems complicated to hear God's voice. I'm going to guide you, one day at a time."

So, for 21 days, you won't be inundated by theories. Instead, you're going to practice actively listening to God and, little by little, develop your spiritual ears.

As <u>Isaiah 50:4</u> says, "...He awakens Me morning by morning, He awakens My ear to hear as the learned."

You're about to enter a new dimension of your spiritual life. Your life is truly going to change!

A big thank you to David for accepting this challenge. I know from experience that it's a big job to create a guide like this. But in 21 days, you can really help someone create a new "habit" and even a new way of experiencing his/her relationship with God.

I pray your journey is blessed and rejoice in advance for what the Lord is going to do in your life through this guide, "21 Days of Listening to God's Voice."

Eric Célérier

Founder of TopChrétien and Jesus.net,
Founder of A Miracle Every Day

## Introduction

Dear friend,

I'm happy that you have decided to learn how to recognize the voice of God. This is the beginning of a new season in your spiritual life.

Many people who listen to my videos or read my book start to hear God's voice very quickly. For others, listening develops gradually as they read. For still others, there seem to be blockages that eventually are removed through perseverance. Sylvie, my wife, began to hear God very quickly. For me, it took much longer, and my journey lasted several months.

The goal of this training is to accompany you step by step along the path of intimacy with God, to help you overcome the different obstacles you may encounter so that you can fully experience God's voice.

You may start hearing God from the very beginning of this training.

Since I can't share everything in one session, I recommend that you go all the way to the end without getting discouraged or putting pressure on yourself. Don't get stuck because you can't seem to do one of the suggested exercises.

Throughout this training, I've integrated testimonies of men and women from around the world who started to hear God after listening to these teachings. These testimonies have several purposes:

The first is to inspire you, to stir up faith in your heart. Perhaps you'll recognize yourself in one of these testimonies.

The second is to give you a glimpse of what hearing God's voice might be like.

The third is that these revelations, because they're biblical, are valid for you as well and will instruct you with fresh, new clarity about God's nature.

Each session lasts 15 minutes. That being said, know that one of the most precious things you can offer God is your time. To learn to hear God's voice is to develop an intimate relationship with the Holy Spirit. Like any relationship, it takes time. So I invite you to continue spending time in God's presence after each session or later in the day.

Hearing God's voice is one of the most precious things that's reserved for His children—that's why the enemy will do everything to try to discourage you.

So I want to assure you that God wants to speak to you, even more than you want to hear Him. He's the one waiting for you!

No matter what obstacle may slow your progress, you are not disqualified.

I invite you to keep a journal and write down what you receive during this time. Writing what we receive from God is very important. It's a way to honor Him, demonstrate our faith, and express the importance that we attribute to His words.

Although prophets hear the voice of God, this training isn't a training for prophets. It is for all of God's children.

When He speaks, God may give us directions, prophetic words, but the first thing He does is reveal Himself to us and speak to us about our relationship with Him. That's why you shouldn't be anxious about making mistakes—because you'll be able to verify in the Bible if what God has said about you or about Him is truly biblical.

Sometimes those who say they hear voices are called crazy, but all the people in the Bible heard God speak to them. Hearing God's voice is a spiritual experience that requires faith. You have to believe simply, like a child, that this invisible God who is the Creator of the universe dwells in you by His Spirit and wants to have a personal conversation with you.

Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

Revelation 3:20 (NKJV)

It's likely that your logic and reason are opposed to this spiritual experience; rest assured, I'm going to support what I teach you with the Bible. But if you believe that a God-man was crucified for your sins 2,000 years ago, that He is risen from the dead, that He gives you eternal life, and that He is seated at the right hand of God, your faith is already great enough to believe that He wants to communicate with you!

You're going to experience new things with God during this training and even afterwards. These are things that God has planned for you that He's gradually revealing to you by His Spirit.

But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him." But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things 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 know the things that have been freely given to us by God. These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

1 Corinthians 2:9-14

The Holy Spirit will bear witness to your spirit that you're on the right path, even if you don't have all the Bible references yet, just like He gave you the assurance of salvation when you were born again before you fully understood the magnitude of salvation.

God won't wait until I'm done speaking to touch you. My role is only to direct you to Him with a new perspective.

You may have visions or experience certain feelings during or after your times with God, which is normal. We'll talk about this again in the upcoming sessions. Simply write what you're experiencing in your journal.

I invite you to pray with me:

Father, I'm thirsty for a greater closeness with You, and I rejoice because this is what You desire, too. Jesus, You reconciled me to the Father so that we could experience communion; I thirst for Your living waters. Holy Spirit, lead me into the depths of God. I surrender myself to You. In Jesus' name, amen.

Are you ready to begin?

David Théry

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	our room, and when you have shut your the secret place; and your Father who sees
in secret will reward you openly.	Matthew 6:6

## Day 1

# Jesus is so close to your heart

Click here to listen to the audio

Hello my friend,

Welcome to this prayer journey to hear God. I believe that your communication with your Heavenly Father will help you grow and that you'll be transformed by it.

May I pray for you right now?

Father, I pray that You would come and reveal Yourself to my friend in a really special way today. I pray that You would open his/her spiritual eyes and ears so that he/she discovers You more intimately. In Jesus' name, amen.

I invite you to make yourself comfortable and give 100% of your attention to Jesus for the next 15 minutes.

If you're listening to the audio, you can close your eyes and let the sound of my voice guide you if you'd like. Smile, breathe deeply...Jesus is here, so close to you.

Take a few moments to focus on His love for you.

[SELAH]

Jesus said, "I will draw all peoples to Myself." (John 12:32)

If you're reading this e-book or listening to the audio, it's because Jesus has successfully drawn you to Himself. Sometimes Christians feel disqualified to hear God, but they've already heard Him, just without realizing it.

How about you, my friend? How was God able to draw your attention?

I invite you to take two minutes now to remember all the times Jesus has beckoned you. Maybe in a meeting, something you read, a song, a verse, a dream, a vision, or a manifestation of His presence in your heart...

[SELAH]

Do you see now that God is already communicating with you?

The goal of this training is for you to hear God more regularly as you become more attentive to what He's saying to you.

The first benefit you'll receive from listening to God is that you'll get to know Him **more intimately.** 

It's a bit like the difference between reading a recipe and tasting the cooked dish. The experience is truly different.

Do you thirst to grow in intimacy with God, my friend?

If this is your desire, you'll need to free yourself from the false conceptions that may be preventing you from drinking from the living waters that Jesus has placed within you.

On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

John 7:37-39

In this text, Jesus is announcing in advance what will be available for each of His children. Yes, for you, too, my friend!

Because He placed His Spirit in you, you can simply drink from this river of living water that's springing up from your heart.

This river has already been inside of you since you were born again.

Jesus says that this river flows.

There's no effort involved if you only have to drink from it!

A newborn baby knows how to drink from the very first minutes of life outside of his/her mother's womb. It's the first thing a baby knows how to do after breathing!

All of the arguments that disqualify you are therefore lies!

You are a child of God, and you can drink from the Holy Spirit's river of life within you.

So you have to understand, first of all, that listening to God doesn't mean emptying yourself to listen to an external voice coming from the depths of space.

Listening to God is focusing on the Holy Spirit within you and welcoming by faith (drinking) what He shares with you.

Paolo, who lives in Réunion, shared a testimony about this:

At the beginning of my journey of learning to listen to the Lord, **I was expecting a thought, a voice from "On High"** and from outside of my body.

The first listening sessions were long, even boring...

My thoughts eventually became restless, and I got discouraged from trying.

**The turning point** came when I realized that the Lord was living in me and that His thoughts were being expressed within me.

From that moment on, the Lord really encouraged me with words of love, reassuring me and insisting that I shouldn't be afraid.

Paolo

My friend, Jesus is so close to you. I invite you to take out your journal and write this question:

"Father, how do You love me?"

Then, focus on His presence in you and simply drink from the river within. Afterwards, write down the spontaneous thoughts that spring up or the images that come to your mind.

I'll leave you with Jesus.

[SELAH]

If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!

Luke 11:11-13

# Day 2 Don't be afraid

Click here to listen to the audio

Hello, dear friend,

Congratulations, it's your 2nd day!

May I pray for you right now?

Heavenly Father, I pray for my friend, that You would free him/her from every fear about You. May Your love bring comfort and security to Your child. In Jesus' name, amen.

I invite you to make yourself comfortable and give 100% of your attention to Jesus for the next 15 minutes.

If you're listening to the audio, you can close your eyes and let the sound of my voice guide you if you'd like. Smile and breathe deeply. Don't be afraid...God has good things for you today.

Take a few moments to remember God's grace in your life. Think about all the blessings that you didn't deserve but He gave you anyways. Thank Him for His grace.

[SELAH]

My friend, did God speak to you yesterday?

Did a verse, a thought, or an image stand out to you?

Did you experience His love in your heart?

Did you tear up perhaps?

I encourage you to treasure these experiences—it's the beginning of a new season in your spiritual life!

I want to reassure you right away if you didn't hear anything yesterday.

Personally speaking, the first time I did this exercise, I was so stressed that I didn't hear anything at all!

So many thoughts were racing through my mind:

Does God want to speak to me?

What is He going to tell me?

What if I don't like what He tells me?

What if I don't hear Him? Does that mean I have a problem?

My thoughts were completely smothering my mind and preventing me from receiving what God wanted to say to me.

This stress surprised me because God had already spoken to me in several different ways: when I read the Bible, sometimes verses would hit me, speak to my heart.

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

I could also feel my heart beating faster when I heard certain sermons.

... The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.

John 6:63

On several occasions, I had made important decisions because I had a deep and intimate conviction, as if a pathway had been laid out in my heart.

Blessed and greatly favored is the man whose strength is in You, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

<u>Psalms 84:5</u> (AMP)

My friend, has God ever spoken to you in any of these ways? Take a moment to think back and thank Him.

#### [SELAH]

Personally, hearing God speak to me directly as He did to those in the Bible intimidated me.

What about you, my friend? What are your fears when it comes to hearing God?

Take a few moments to write them honestly in your journal. I believe that by the end of this prayer journey, those fears will have disappeared!

#### [SELAH]

While reading the Bible, I was struck by a paradox: God seeks to speak to His children through all means, and yet, many people in the Bible were afraid of God when He spoke to them!

For example, when Adam heard God's voice in the garden, he hid because he was ashamed of his disobedience. He was afraid of being punished.

And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, "Where are you?" So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself."

Genesis 3:8-10

As for the Hebrews, when they were at the base of Mount Sinai, they thought they were going to die for hearing God. They were so terrified that they asked Moses to act as their mediator. They feared the manifest presence of God.

Now all the people witnessed the thunderings, the lightning flashes, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking; and when the people saw it, they trembled and stood afar off. Then they said to Moses, "You speak with us, and we will hear; but let not God speak with us, lest we die."

Exodus 20:18-19

Samson's father, too, was afraid of dying because he had seen the Angel of the Lord announce the birth of his son. He had a wrong image of God.

When the Angel of the LORD appeared no more to Manoah and his wife, then Manoah knew that He was the Angel of the LORD. And Manoah said to his wife, "We shall surely die, because we have seen God!" But his wife said to him, "If the LORD had desired to kill us, He would not have accepted a burnt offering and a grain offering from our hands, nor would He have shown us all these things, nor would He have told us such things as these at this time."

Judges 13:21-23

His wife brought him back to his senses by telling him that God wouldn't have announced this good news to then kill them!

The reason we have these fears is that we hear God's voice on an emotional level, in the deepest part of our beings, and not just with our minds or reason.

It's possible to study a doctrine and maintain a certain distance, but hearing God speak to us in our spirits cannot leave us indifferent.

To hear God's voice is to meet God Himself.

Dear friend, do you see yourself in these people in the Bible? If you were to see Jesus before you, would you run into His arms, or would you hide like Adam?

If God were to bring you right now into His throne room, would you tremble for fear of being judged, or would you draw near to your Heavenly Father?

Jesus came to reconcile us to the Father. He is the One who made propitiation and sacrificed Himself for us.

That is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

2 Corinthians 5:19

In everyday language, this means that God is reaching out to you, smiling when He sees you, and that He's eager to do just one thing: hold you tightly to His heart, covering you with His affection.

You can draw near boldly and without fear to the throne of grace, especially to the One seated upon it. Your sins are erased by the blood of Jesus; you are clothed in the holiness of Christ.

Listening to God isn't hearing the verdict of a judge in a court of law but drawing near to the loving Father with Jesus at your side.

I invite you to pray with me:

Heavenly Father, thank You for Jesus' sacrifice for me. I wasn't worthy to approach You, but You sought me out and drew me to You by Your love. Thank You for demonstrating Your love for me while I lived my life far from You. I ask You to forgive me of my sins, and I turn away from them. I renounce my distance from You and submit to Your lordship. I choose to believe in Your goodness, and I thank You, Father, for giving me peace with You. I choose to live in Your intimacy. In Jesus' name, amen.

I invite you now to imagine that you are at the entrance to God's throne room.

[SELAH]

You're in a long corridor filled with angels, armed with swords of fire, who are guarding the entryway.

[SELAH]

As you go forward, they move aside to open the way for you.

[SELAH]

They greet you, saying, "Welcome, beloved child of the Father!"

## [SELAH]

As you approach this massive doorway, you realize that your clothes are a radiant white—you are clothed in a wedding garment, in the righteousness of Christ.

## [SELAH]

You're now at the door, it opens before you, and an indescribable glory blinds you.

## [SELAH]

God is there; He's waiting for you.

You bow down before Him.

[SELAH]

He calls you by your name.

#### [SELAH]

Now say to Him, "Father, here I am. Thank You for Jesus, who has made a way for me to enter Your presence. How do You see me?"

Stay in His presence, and write down the spontaneous thoughts that come to you or the images you receive in your spirit.

## [SELAH]

And the Spirit and the bride say	""Como!" And lot him who hoars say "Como!"
	y, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" Whoever desires, let him take the water of life
	Revelation 22:17

## Day 3

## Jesus wants to quench your thirst

Click here to listen to the audio

Hello, dear friend,

Congratulations, it's your 3rd day!

May I pray for you right now?

Father, I pray that You would quench my friend's thirst with the river of living waters of Your love. May Your words touch the deepest part of his/her being. In Jesus' name, amen.

I invite you to make yourself comfortable and give 100% of your attention to Jesus for the next 15 minutes.

If you're listening to the audio, you can close your eyes and let the sound of my voice guide you if you'd like.

Are you thirsting for the Holy Spirit today? He wants to quench your thirst!

Take a few moments to express to God in your own words how thirsty you are for Him.

#### [SELAH]

When Jesus came and taught on Earth, people found that His words were different from those of the scribes and teachers of the law.

Jesus even explained that His words were Spirit and life. (John 6:63)

In other words, they were active in the spiritual and natural realms, they gave life. And here's the reason: Jesus' words came directly from the Father.

Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works.

John 14:10

What impact did Jesus' words have?

They calmed the storm; cast out demons; and healed the sick, even from a distance. (Mark 4:39, Mark 1:25, Matthew 8:8)

When God speaks, what He says happens. It's fulfilled.

He calls things by name, and they come into existence! He is the Creator. (<u>Psalms 33:9</u>, <u>1</u> Timothy 6:13)

That is why God's words are powerful and nourishing to us.

But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God."

Matthew 4:4

The word "word" used here is the Greek word "Rhema."

It's a living word, and it's for us at a specific time.

Have you noticed that when you read the Bible, some verses speak to you more than others at certain times?

They carry more weight then, even though the other verses in the chapter are just as much the Word of God.

At these times, it seems like our souls are nourished, as if we'd eaten something—we may even feel full. So we need time to digest what we've just read.

I invite you right now to reread some of the verses you've recently underlined in your Bible or think about what God has said to you through His Word. It will kindle your desire to hear God more.

#### [SELAH]

My friend, God wants to quench your thirst through His words. To quench means "to satiate, to allay thirst." Being thirsty is an essential element for hearing God.

Jesus said, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink." (John 7:37)

How can you develop your thirst for God?

First of all, we read His promises carefully, and then we are nourished by testimonies. Testimonies empower our faith to hope in God's promises and to be set into motion. Reading and listening to testimonies is like eating salt—it makes us thirsty!

One day, I was teaching some children about this verse. I had them do a relay race just after they'd eaten bags of salty chips.

They begged me for some water. I was able to show them what the thirst that Jesus wants us to have looks like; it has to become an obsession.

The more intense the thirst, the more we're able to overcome the obstacles preventing our thirst from being quenched.

When my wife heard God's voice for the first time, she wrote several pages in a notebook. It was a conversation saturated with the love and goodness of God.

When I read it, I had tears in my eyes. It's as if God had drawn so close to us, as if I was used to seeing Him on TV and then suddenly, He came into the room.

These several pages stirred in me an intense thirst to hear God myself, too.

Do you know what God said the first time He spoke to me?

He told me something so simple. He said, "David, I love you."

It was such a gentle and sweet thought, and the fact that God called me by my name, in such a personal way, and told me that He loved me overwhelmed me.

At that time, I had been a Christian for several years, preached the Gospel, and had even taken courses at a Bible college.

I could talk about God's love for hours. Yet it took God repeating the same thing in my spirit three days in a row for me to dare to write it down.

I realized that day that there was a difference between what I believed with my head and what I believed with my heart.

But when, by faith, I accepted that it was indeed the Holy Spirit speaking to me, the thought continued in my spirit:

"I've been waiting for this moment a long time. I have many things to tell you."

I then felt my soul being quenched like never before!!

I often liken this experience to someone in the middle of the desert who was licking the condensation off of a bottle of fresh water and suddenly discovered how to drink what was inside the bottle!

Dear friend, do you see the difference between an intellectual knowledge of God and a word from God in your heart?

God's words quench your thirst!

I invite you to pray with me:

Heavenly Father, I thirst for You, for Your love. I pray that You would increase my thirst and reveal Yourself to me right now.

[SELAH]

My friend, since Jesus said that He placed a river in you, why not drink from it?

I invite you to close your eyes and imagine that you're plunging into the river of life that your Father put inside of you.

Don't be afraid...drink this fresh water.

Relax, smile, and then write the following question in your journal:

"Father, what do You want to tell me about Your river that's inside of me?"

Stay focused on the Holy Spirit in you and simply write down by faith what's rising in your heart as a thought, image, or verse.

I'll leave you with Jesus as He quenches your thirst.

[SELAH]

Or do you not know you, whom you have	is the temple o	of the Holy Spirit who is in  1 Corinthians 6:19
		1 Communans 0.15

## Day 4

## God can speak directly to your heart

Click here to listen to the audio

Hello, dear friend,

Well done, you're on your 4th day!

May I pray for you right now?

Heavenly Father, I pray for my friend, that You would cause him/her to realize just how close You are to him/her. Help my friend to distinguish Your voice in his/her spirit. In Jesus' name, amen.

I invite you to make yourself comfortable and give 100% of your attention to Jesus for the next 15 minutes.

If you're listening to the audio, you can close your eyes and let the sound of my voice guide you if you'd like.

Listening to God is being in a heart-to-heart connection with Him. Listen to your heart; He lives there!

Take a few moments to focus on God's love in you and breathe in His presence.

[SELAH]

When you were born again, the Holy Spirit came to live in you.

That's why you feel wrong when you commit a sin—because the HOLY Spirit lives in you.

You thus feel directly in your heart what He thinks of your actions or words.

You feel His feelings, to the point where you think that they're your feelings.

Even more than that, your spirit is one spirit with the Lord.

But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him.

1 Corinthians 6:17

Paul makes this statement in the context of the intimate union between a man and a woman.

That's why when God speaks to you, He doesn't need to use a microphone or send you an angel. He can murmur His words in the intimacy of your heart, so much so that His thoughts are intimately intertwined with yours.

He doesn't need to make an appointment either...He can speak to you at any moment.

It's a bit like those TV hosts who have earpieces and can hear the control room while they're talking to a guest on the set.

Dear friend, have you ever heard His sweet voice inside of you?

[SELAH]

Have you ever felt compelled, in varying degrees, to do something you hadn't anticipated?

[SELAH]

Have you ever had a persistent thought that wouldn't let go of you, even while your mind opposed it?

[SELAH]

People often say, "I thought it was my imagination!"

But it was the Holy Spirit!

Take a moment to remember those "God winks" in your life, and also ask Him to reveal to you the times when you didn't pay attention:

"Holy Spirit, show me when You were speaking to me, and I didn't realize it."

[SELAH]

God can speak to you at any moment, anywhere, whether He has your attention or not, whether you feel like listening to Him or not, and He can do so, even if the enemy is in the midst of talking to you.

Ah yes, that's right—the enemy also speaks to you!

Are you ever tempted? Have impure thoughts? Evil intentions? Insistent thoughts you don't want?

The enemy speaks to you by making it seem like they are your thoughts.

That's why, if you're able to recognize a temptation, you're also able to recognize the voice of your Father.

It's faith that comes into play in both cases.

Faith that you have an enemy and that you must resist him.

Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

James 4:7

Faith that you have a shepherd who wants to lead you.

My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

John 10:27

The fact that God is so close to your heart means that He even uses your vocabulary.

He may also use your memories, a movie, or a song that you know, a metaphor based on your life activities.

In fact, what good would it do you if He spoke to you in Aramaic?

Since God has come to live in you through His Spirit, you can commune with Him in you. By this, I mean that you don't have to wait for Him to come—He's already there, all the time.

But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

Matthew 6:6

Let's review this before going on.

God speaks to you in your heart, the enemy does as well, and you speak to yourself.

Thus, it's important that you be attentive to what's going on in your heart.

What happens when God reaches out to you with a verse, a sermon, a prayer, or a praise song? Your heart beats harder, you feel the warmth of His love, a peace floods you, perhaps a shiver goes through you...all of this doesn't happen in your brain but **in your heart.** 

Do you ever use the expression, "that word touched me"?

#### [SELAH]

This means that it had an effect **on your heart**, it stirred your emotions. It was more than words decoded by your brain and stored in your memory.

Since God speaks in your heart, I invite you to come and meet Him in you.

As you listen to me, you're positioned in your intellect, your mind. The Holy Spirit is in your heart, or more precisely, in your innermost being.

Jesus said, "He who believes in Me [who adheres to, trusts in, and relies on Me], as the Scripture has said, 'From his innermost being will flow continually rivers of living water.'" (John 7:38, AMP)

Just as you can return to your thoughts after experiencing a strong emotion, you can choose to enter into the Spirit, meeting the Holy Spirit who's in you.

This is what you probably experience in your church after several worship songs.

What's surrounding you fades from your consciousness, and you have thoughts only for Jesus. Despite the people around you, you're in a one-to-one encounter with your Savior.

This is what it means to be "in the Spirit."

I invite you to pray with me:

Father, thank You for putting Your Spirit in me, so close to my heart. Holy Spirit, I come to meet You. You are love, and I dive into Your love for me. I abandon myself in You.

[SELAH]

If you're feeling His love or His peace, simply remain focused, as if you were physically getting so close to a source of heat that you're warmed by it. You don't have to extend any effort...just abandon yourself and dive into His love.

[SELAH]

Now, write this question for Jesus:

"Jesus, what do You want to tell me about my heart?"

Stay in the Spirit and receive what's coming to you in the form of thoughts, images, feelings, and emotions. Then, write it down in your journal.

[SELAH]

But without faith it is impossible to please Himbelieve that He is, and that He is a rewarder of	

## Day 5

# Believe that the Holy Spirit wants to speak to you

Click here to listen to the audio

Hello, my friend,

Congratulations, you're on your 5th day!

May I pray for you right now?

Heavenly Father, the Author of our faith, I ask that You would increase my friend's faith and help him/her believe that it's indeed Your voice speaking in his/her heart. In Jesus' name, amen.

I invite you to make yourself comfortable and give 100% of your attention to Jesus for the next 15 minutes. Smile, you're not being filmed...but your Heavenly Father *is* gazing upon you with lovingkindness. ;-)

If you're listening to the audio, you can close your eyes and let the sound of my voice guide you if you'd like. Breathe deeply and rejoice that God wants to speak to you!

Take a few moments to reflect in your heart on what you experienced the first 4 times listening to God during this training.

[SELAH]

Abraham, the father of believers, was named this for a simple reason:

God spoke to him, and he believed Him.

Abraham believed God when he left his country without knowing where he was going, and he believed God concerning his descendants when his wife was barren. (Genesis 12:1-4, Genesis 15:5-6)

He believed God; in other words, he obeyed Him by blindly trusting Him, to the point of agreeing to sacrifice his son Isaac. (Genesis 22)

During this last test, Abraham demonstrated his faith, and God blessed him.

What strikes me the most is that he took these steps of faith in obedience to God's voice.

He believed that it was God speaking to him!

Someone once said that faith is spelled R.I.S.K.

Abraham took a risk when he left everything to go to Canaan or when he went to Mount Moriah with his son to sacrifice him.

No matter the level of intimacy you have with God, faith will always enter into the equation when it comes to listening to Him.

The same question comes up again and again, and everyone asks it:

Was it really God who spoke to me, or was it my own thoughts?

My friend, have you ever taken risks by faith? Take a few moments to remember the steps of faith that you took in the past and what prompted them.

[SELAH]

My friend, let me give you some advice:

It's easier to learn to hear God when it's low-risk because it requires less faith. Faith develops when we exercise it.

Have you noticed that Abraham had to demonstrate his faith progressively?

Before obeying God asking you, for example, to go to another country and risk your life to preach the Gospel, your faith is going to need to be strengthened and developed.

So now wouldn't be the time, then, on the 5th day of this prayer journey, to ask God whom you're going to marry or if you should sell your house...

The first level of faith is believing that God wants to speak to you.

You can demonstrate this level of faith by regularly taking time to listen to Him and ask Him questions. Being ready to write because you're expecting to receive something from Him is also a demonstration of faith.

You also demonstrate your faith by honoring the Holy Spirit when you feel a prompting in your spirit from Him during the day. For example, if a persistent thought or a discomfort you don't understand arises, simply say, "Holy Spirit, I know that You're living inside of me and that You want to speak to me. What do You want to tell me?"

The second level of faith is deciding to believe what He's telling you about Himself or about you, after you've confirmed that what you received is indeed biblical (we'll talk more about the importance of this step later).

If what God is telling you is turning the things you believe upside down, you'll need all the more faith to believe Him, like when God told Sarah that she would have a child at 90 years old. (Genesis 17:17)

Personally, I had trouble believing that God would tell me that He loved me and so many other things that He shared with me afterwards. Listening to God has freed me from so many lies that I believed in the depths of my heart.

Finally, the third level of faith manifests when you're willing to obey what He tells you. That could be calling someone and catching up, heeding a warning from the Holy Spirit and changing your plans, or making wise decisions based on His guidance.

Let's look again at what Jesus declared:

If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.

John 7:37-38

Faith, therefore, is like the faucet that releases the river of the Spirit in us.

Have you noticed that I recommend writing down what you receive in prayer? This is first of all to help you express your faith and then remain in faith as you're listening to God.

Indeed, if you start examining every word and image that's coming to you, doubt and anxiety will dry up the river of the Spirit in you. Examine what you've received but only by rereading what you've written.

Sometimes a thought comes to us like an imperceptible whisper. If we welcome it by faith, it becomes stronger, but if we doubt, it fades away, leaving us with our own reasoning.

Thus, when Jesus says that we should come to Him and drink, it's a matter of welcoming by faith what the Holy Spirit living in us will whisper in our spirits.

I invite you now to apply what we've just discussed.

Take out your journal, relax, smile, and imagine that you're in Jesus' arms.

[SELAH]

Now write this question: "Jesus, what do You want to tell me about my faith?"

Open your heart wide and drink by faith what's springing up in you.

Then write what you receive.

[SELAH]

I'd also suggest this question: "Father, what do You want to tell me today?"

[SELAH]

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## Day 6

## Remain in silence and wait for Him

Click here to listen to the audio

Hello, my friend,

Congratulations, you're on your 6th day!

May I pray for you right now?

Heavenly Father, You spoke to Elijah in a still, small voice; I pray that my friend would be able to remain in peace before You, like a weaned child in his/her mother's arms. I pray that Your presence would become his/her refuge, a place of rest, and that Your voice would be clear and distinct in his/her heart in the midst of all the other voices and demands. In Jesus' name, amen.

I invite you to make yourself comfortable and give 100% of your attention to Jesus for the next 15 minutes. Smile, breathe deeply, and enter into the Holy Spirit's presence within you.

[SELAH]

If you're listening to the audio, you can close your eyes and let the sound of my voice guide you if you'd like. God loves when we remain silent before Him. As you set yourself apart, He's there, waiting for you.

[SELAH]

Take a few moments to calm your soul. A few moments of silence to contemplate God.

[SELAH]

If you're anxious and agitated within, release your worries to Him.

Write down the tasks on your mind that you need to take care of after this time with God...it will help clear your thoughts of these concerns.

[SELAH]

Let His love shine upon you.

[SELAH]

One of the basic rules of communication is to stay quiet in order to listen to others.

To hear God speak to you, you must learn to spend time in silence before Him.

It's possible you may feel uncomfortable in silence if your inner suffering becomes more audible. What if, instead of suppressing it, you give it to God?

What if you ask the Holy Spirit to come and comfort you?

When one of my children cries and needs comfort, I hold him in my arms, and I wait. It takes time for the comfort to take effect. After a few minutes, he is calmed, comforted, consoled.

I encourage you to ask the Holy Spirit to come and hug you, hold you in His arms, so that you may experience what the psalmist shares in Psalm 131: being like a weaned child in his mother's arms...in other words, in the peace and security of her presence.

Simply say:

"Holy Spirit, I ask You to hug me, embrace me in Your arms. Come and bring peace to my soul so that I don't have any more discomfort waiting silently before You."

Then, open your hands to receive Him and let His love touch you.

[SELAH]

Silent contemplation is one of the kinds of worship He asks of us.

But the LORD is in His holy temple. Let all the earth keep silence before Him.

Habakkuk 2:20

Silence is a sign of honor granted to a dignitary who is about to speak. All the earth is called to keep silence before God. Because God is God!

Silence before God is also a love language. It's offering Him quality time. Know that it's not the silence that God loves but having your full attention.

After coming to Him with your praise and prayers, I invite you to be quiet, remaining silent and attentive before Him.

In the morning, LORD, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait expectantly.

Psalms 5:3 (NIV)

The psalmist remained before God, waiting for His answers.

The word "wait" in Hebrew can also be translated "be on the lookout for" or "watch" in this verse. It suggests a faith-filled wait, a watchfulness in the Spirit.

In these moments of silence, your soul comes into a place of calmness, God's love and peace fill you, and your spirit can more easily receive visions.

You can be physically calm but restless internally.

Staying silent before God is difficult for many people. That's why I invite you to start practicing and set a timer to remain in silence for 5 minutes a day, for example. The more you become accustomed to being silent before Him, the more you'll be able to connect quickly with the Holy Spirit in you.

The Passion Translation of this verse says this:

At each and every sunrise you will hear my voice as I prepare my sacrifice of prayer to you. Every morning I lay out the pieces of my life on the altar and wait for your fire to fall upon my heart.

Psalms 5:3 (TPT)

If God can speak to you through thoughts in your spirit, He can also show you an image or cause you to physically or emotionally feel His presence. Be sensitive to these manifestations and simply respond by saying, "Thank You, Holy Spirit, for allowing me to feel Your presence" or "Thank You for Your peace." Then let Him saturate you with His presence.

Remember one thing: faith enables you to hear God. When you keep silent before Him, believe that He wants to speak to you. He Himself chose to put His Spirit in you to more easily communicate with you. This means that you don't have to get His attention...just connect with the frequency of His heart.

I invite you to take out your prayer journal.

Let's end today by writing this simple question to God:

"Father, here I am. Your child is listening to You. What would You like to say to me?"

Then remain attentive, in silence, eyes closed.

Afterwards, write down what you thought, saw, or felt in your journal.

[SELAH]

My sheep hear M	ly voice, and I know	them, and they	follow Me.	John 10:27

## Day 7

# God speaks to your spirit— your mind must submit to Him

Click here to listen to the audio

Hello, my friend,

Congratulations, you're on your 7th day!

May I pray for you right now?

Heavenly Father, You are Spirit, and You speak to our spirits. I pray that You would help my friend to submit his/her mind to Your Spirit so that he/she can fully experience what You want to reveal. In Jesus' name, amen.

I invite you to make yourself comfortable and give 100% of your attention to Jesus for the next 15 minutes. Smile, breathe deeply.

Jesus is the good shepherd. He knows better than you what you need, where to lead you, and how to get there. You are safe so long as you follow Him.

If you're listening to the audio, you can close your eyes and let the sound of my voice guide you if you'd like.

Jesus said:

My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

John 10:27

Meditate for a few moments on the fact that Jesus is your shepherd.

[SELAH]

I'm sure you've noticed, as you try to listen to God, that your thoughts can be in opposition to what you receive. You then think to yourself:

"This has to be my imagination...it's not logical. It's not possible..."

Though God has given you a mind (and it's especially useful for comparing what we receive in prayer with the Bible), remember that God doesn't speak to your mind—He speaks to your spirit.

Perhaps, like me, you didn't know the difference between your spirit and your mind until now. But your mind and your spirit are two different things.

The apostle Paul demonstrates this, for example, when he says that our spirits can be praying while our minds are unfruitful (or at rest). (1 Corinthians 14:14, NIV)

Your spirit is the part of you that enables you to commune with God; it's your spirit that has been united with the Holy Spirit since you were born again. (1 Corinthians 6:17, NIV)

All your life, you've used your mind to reason and to dictate your decisions. That's why your mind fights to maintain supremacy in your thoughts.

The apostle Paul wrote to the Galatians about this battle between our spirits and our thoughts:

What I am saying is this: run your lives by the Spirit. Then you will not do what your old nature wants. For the old nature wants what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit wants what is contrary to the old nature. These oppose each other, so that you find yourselves unable to carry out your good intentions.

Galatians 5:16-17 (CJB)

"You find yourselves unable to carry out your good intentions"...it's as if you can't be your own master. This may be hard to hear, but if you think about it, have you ever made bad decisions while being completely convinced that you were right?

[SELAH]

My friend, Jesus compares us to sheep!

A sheep without its shepherd is in danger—it depends on him for safety, for food.

Since you started following Jesus, have you made good decisions that were inspired by God, even though your mind opposed them? Think about it for a moment and thank Him for His help.

[SELAH]

The sheep is dependent on its shepherd.

We therefore must recognize that we are dependent on God, that without Him, we can't lead our lives correctly.

Sheep aren't put on leashes—they simply follow the shepherd at the sound of his voice.

Often you won't understand why God tells you something. Remember that He knows everything, about everyone. He knows every thought of every human being, and He even knows the future!

That's why trusting Him is the best choice. This is called faith: believing what God says for the simple reason that He's the One saying it!

Faith causes your mind to submit to your spirit and thus to the Holy Spirit.

Take a few moments to meditate on this verse:

For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.

Isaiah 55:8-9

### [SELAH]

The best attitude to adopt is therefore to obediently follow the Good Shepherd at the sound of His voice. Submit your will to Jesus' will so you can follow Him without the resistance of your mind.

I encourage you to ask the Holy Spirit to speak to you about the shepherd.

Imagine that you're following Jesus, that you're walking in His footsteps, but you don't understand the path He's taking, as is so often the case with us...

Now write this question in your journal:

"Jesus, what do You want to tell me about Your shepherd's heart and my role as a sheep?"

I'll leave you with the Good Shepherd.

[SELAH]

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.	Romans 8:14

## Day 8

## Learning to recognize His voice:

### Part 1

Click here to listen to the audio

Hello, my friend,

Congratulations, you're starting your second week!

May I pray for you right now?

Heavenly Father, I pray for Your son/daughter who thirsts to hear You, who wants to learn to walk by the sound of Your voice. I ask that Your voice would become familiar to my friend and that his/her faith would fearlessly rely on what You say to him/her. In Jesus' name, amen.

I invite you to make yourself comfortable and give 100% of your attention to Jesus for the next 15 minutes. Smile, breathe deeply.

Jesus is your friend. He wants you to know Him more.

If you're listening to the audio, you can close your eyes and let the sound of my voice guide you if you'd like.

I invite you to come into Jesus' arms and allow His love to saturate you.

[SELAH]

Maybe you've asked yourself this question over the last few days: How do I know that it's actually God speaking to me? Is it possible to recognize His voice?

But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.

John 10:2-4 (emphasis added)

My friend, when Jesus speaks to you, what makes you recognize Him?

[SELAH]

Jesus says that His sheep know His voice. That means that everyone can hear Him—otherwise, how could we follow Him?

But if everyone can hear Him, it doesn't mean that everyone is listening to Him.

Think for a few moments about your friends or family members. Each one has a different voice, vocabulary, and expressions that are uniquely his/her own. You can probably recognize your friends and family members without seeing them, just by the sound of their voices.

The people whose voices you recognize are those you've gotten to know. If you've been listening to the audio for the past 8 days, you're probably starting to know Grant's voice!

It's really important to learn to recognize Jesus' voice because otherwise, we risk following the enemy.

Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.

John 10:5

What is Jesus' voice like?

God's thoughts reflect His character and nature. God is love. That's why His thoughts are filled with love, unconditional love.

He is the God of grace; He is patient, compassionate, encouraging, good, and joyful. God is the source of forgiveness, the Savior, and the Truth. He will not say anything contradictory to His nature. It's through His Word, the Bible, that we learn to know God in order to recognize His voice.

For example, if you receive a thought like this:

"Draw near to Me, I love you, trust Me, I want to forgive you," this thought reflects the nature of God revealed in the Bible. In fact, the Lord draws us to Him (<u>John 6:44</u>), He is faithful to forgive us (<u>1 John 1:9</u>), and it's by faith that we receive His grace (<u>Ephesians 2:8</u>).

The more you read the Bible, the more you'll have an accurate image of God and the more you'll be able to recognize His voice and reject what isn't from Him.

The Bible must be your guide in analyzing what you receive, not your mind. Indeed, we often believe lies in the depths of our hearts that are contrary to what the Bible says.

For example, someone with low self-esteem may believe that he/she is useless or worthless. Let's imagine that, in prayer, a thought comes to his/her heart: "My child, I love you. You are so precious to Me. You are My treasure."

This person runs the risk of rejecting what he/she receives, thinking that it's prideful to believe it or that his/her imagination is playing a trick on him/her. Yet, the Bible supports this thought. Jesus redeemed us with the price of His blood, which is more precious than gold. We are fearfully and wonderfully made in His image, and God loved us so much that He gave His Son for us! (1 Peter 1:18, Psalms 139:14, John 3:16)

Over the last few days, have you had trouble believing that what you've received in your spirit could come from God? If so, compare these thoughts with what the Bible says is true.

[SELAH]

So the LORD said to Moses, "I will also do this thing that you have spoken; for you have found grace in My sight, and I know you by name."

**Exodus 33:17** 

Jesus may also call you by your name or by a nickname or expression that touches your heart. Sandrine experienced this...here's her testimony:

As I was reading, "Jesus calls you by name," I wondered, "Why doesn't God call me by name when He speaks to me?"

For me, every time I start listening to His voice, God begins by saying, "My daughter."

And this morning, a revelation, a connection, was made...My mom, when I was a young adult, had said these words to me: "The only thing I regret is not being able to remove you from the records. You're no longer my daughter!"

These words really hurt me a lot...This morning, I understood why God insists on using these two words...It is because I am His daughter!

Can a woman forget her nursing child, and not have compassion on the son of her womb? Surely they may forget, yet I will not forget you.

Isaiah 49:15

#### Sandrine

My friend, if you've had trouble hearing God so far, don't worry, you're learning. Read the Bible so that you can become immersed in God's nature and recognize Him when He speaks to you.

If you've begun to receive His thoughts or images inspired of Him, try to find verses that support what you've received. The image may not necessarily be in the Bible, but its meaning must be biblical and consistent with God's nature.

No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you.

John 15:15

Since Jesus calls Himself our friend, let's develop this friendship!

Take out your journal and imagine that you're sitting with Jesus on the seashore. He is your friend, His presence dear to your heart.

Now write this question in your journal and ask Him:

"Jesus, how can I develop our friendship?"

Simply welcome by faith what springs up inside of you and write it in your journal.

When you're finished, compare what you've received with the Bible.

[SELAH]

...The sheep follow him, for they know his voice.

John 10:4

## Day 9

## Learning to recognize His voice:

## Part 2

Click here to listen to the audio

Hello, my friend,

Congratulations, you're on your 9th day!

May I pray for you right now?

Heavenly Father, I pray for my friend right now, that he/she would recognize Your voice amidst all the others in his/her heart. Thank You for the love and peace that You give him/her in these times of intimacy with You. In Jesus' name, amen.

I invite you to make yourself comfortable and give 100% of your attention to Jesus for the next 15 minutes. Smile, breathe deeply.

Jesus is here.

He has good things for you today; open your heart to Him and enter into His love within you.

[SELAH]

If you're listening to the audio, you can close your eyes and let the sound of my voice guide you if you'd like.

The Holy Spirit is a person—He loves to surprise us, ignite our curiosity, and get our attention in original ways.

Has He surprised you over the last several days?

[SELAH]

My friend, have you received spontaneous thoughts or images in the last few days outside of your prayer times? Remember that the Holy Spirit can speak to your spirit at any time!

Believe in me so that rivers of living water will **burst out** from within you, flowing from your innermost being, just like the Scripture says!

John 7:38 (TPT) (emphasis added)

One of the characteristics of God's thoughts is that they burst out from within us.

They're spontaneous because they aren't the fruit of our own reasoning. It's a bit like when you pick up the phone without knowing who's calling—you can't predict what you'll hear.

Your thoughts are the fruit of your reasoning, whereas the enemy's temptations and God's thoughts are spontaneous—they come suddenly, like "out of nowhere."

So if thoughts or images spontaneously came to you in prayer or during the day, be attentive to them. They're probably coming from God.

You should then compare them to what the Bible teaches about God's nature, which is what we saw yesterday.

The next criterion to check is the effect that these thoughts and images have on you. When Jesus tells you that He loves you, you feel His love. If He tells you, "Don't worry," His peace accompanies His words.

For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast.

<u>Psalms 33:9</u>

God's words contain life within them; they are much more than information. Your own thoughts don't have this creative power.

The enemy's thoughts, on the other hand, have a negative effect, creating fear, anxiety, guilt, or despair.

The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

John 10:10

God's thoughts are also very gentle, like a whisper that calls for us to listen carefully by faith.

Some people tend to not heed this gentle whisper, expecting a wind that tears through the mountains or the sound of a loud trumpet. But when God spoke to Elijah, God wasn't in the midst of these supernatural manifestations. He was in a gentle whisper...a still, small voice.

"Go out and stand before me on the mountain," the LORD told him. And as Elijah stood there, the LORD passed by, and a mighty windstorm hit the mountain. It was such a terrible blast that the rocks were torn loose, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. And after the earthquake there was a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire there was the sound of a gentle whisper.

1 Kings 19:11-12 (NLT)

So therefore, if you want to be more sensitive to God's voice during the day, maintain your awareness of His presence within you.

Every morning, take time to focus on the Holy Spirit in you and then, regularly throughout the day, refocus on Him. The more you do, the quicker it will be, and the longer your awareness of His presence will last.

It's in this communion of spirit that you'll be more receptive to what He wants to communicate with you.

I invite you to do this now. Say to the Holy Spirit,

"Holy Spirit, here I am. I'm diving into Your presence."

[SELAH]

My friend, God loves to ignite your curiosity because it draws you closer to Him. It is rare for us to receive complete messages all at once. God tends to begin a conversation without us understanding right away what He's meaning to say. His goal is to start a conversation with us.

So if you see an image and don't understand what it means, instead of dismissing it, simply ask the Holy Spirit if He's the one getting your attention and what it means.

I invite you to start listening to the Holy Spirit now.

Take out your journal and write the following question:

"Father, here I am before You. What would You like to say to me today?"

Enter into the Holy Spirit's presence within you and simply write down what bursts forth within you.

Ask Him questions to continue the conversation He initiates. Then, when He's done speaking, examine what you've written using the steps we discussed today (spontaneity, if it resembles God's nature, if it's biblical, and what impact it has on you).

I'll leave you with the Holy Spirit.

[SELAH]

Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?"

Genesis 3:1

## **Day 10**

## **Listening to God**

## so you don't follow the enemy

Click here to listen to the audio

Hello, my friend,

Congratulations, you're on your 10th day!

May I pray for you right now?

Heavenly Father, I pray for Your son/daughter right now, that the enemy would no longer have any access to his/her thoughts, that his lies would be exposed, and that Your son/daughter would be able to follow You without turning to the left or to the right. In Jesus' name, amen.

I invite you to make yourself comfortable and give 100% of your attention to Jesus for the next 15 minutes. Smile, breathe deeply.

Jesus is the Good Shepherd. He makes you lie down in green pastures.

[SELAH]

If you're listening to the audio, you can close your eyes and let the sound of my voice guide you if you'd like.

We've seen that certain thoughts come from God. But if He can speak to you, know that the enemy can, too.

Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.

John 10:5

My friend, whom are you listening to?

What thoughts are resonating inside of you, and who authored them?

[SELAH]

All of humanity's problems began when Eve started listening to the serpent. Gradually, the enemy's speech seemed convincing, and in the end, she obeyed him and disobeyed God. The fall brought death, sin, and disease into the human race and offered Satan dominion over the Farth.

Satan is the father of lies, and every conversation with him ends up infecting us.

Perhaps you'd tell me, my friend, that you don't talk to Satan! I have no doubt about that, but I am sure that *he* talks to you.

The serpent didn't announce to Eve the consequences of her disobedience—God had already done so. The serpent just contradicted God by saying, "You won't die!"

He didn't say, "Eat the fruit!" But he spoke to Eve in such a way that she herself wanted to eat it. He manipulated her, and he has continued to manipulate people for millennia.

Satan sends you thoughts, impressions, and even emotions, making you believe that they're yours. It's a trick as old as time.

He whispers in your ear, "I'm worthless!"

And it's like a seed that produces the tree of low self-esteem if you don't uproot it.

He whispers to you, "It's my fault!"

Thus, he sows the thicket of condemnation and thorns of guilt within you.

My friend, do thoughts, fears, and negative emotions poison your life?

[SELAH]

My friend, just like you must be attentive to God's thoughts, you must be watchful when it comes to the enemy's thoughts. Jesus explained that His sheep will flee from the stranger's voice because he is dangerous. He has only one goal: to destroy you!

The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

John 10:10

To put it simply, not all the thoughts in your mind are yours.

The good news is that the more you find nourishment in the Bible, the more you'll be able to recognize God's voice and the voice of the enemy.

So if you recognize that a thought isn't from God, conflicts with the Bible, or pushes you away from your Heavenly Father, you must reject it in the name of Jesus and confess the biblical truth about it.

For example, if you have the thought, "God will never again allow me to come into His presence," confess that Jesus said, "...the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out." (John 6:37)

My friend, you act based on the thoughts within you.

So in order to change your behavior, you have to change what you think, starting with no longer thinking what the enemy wants you to think.

Personally, I didn't believe I was thinking lies until the Holy Spirit revealed them to me. After I renounced them and confessed God's Word, my life changed profoundly. By the way, this is one of Jesus' promises:

And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

John 8:32

What truth is Jesus talking about here? Not a general truth about His divinity but truths that directly oppose the lies holding us captive.

My friend, do you want to be free from the lies that the enemy has sown in you without your knowledge?

I invite you to ask the Holy Spirit to reveal them to you.

First of all, take out your journal.

Relax and focus on the Holy Spirit in you, the Spirit of truth.

Now write this question: "Holy Spirit, what lie is holding me captive?"

Remain at peace for a few moments and simply write down what's coming to you.

[SELAH]

Then write: "Holy Spirit, what is the truth that You want me to believe?

Receive the truth that's coming to your spirit. It may be in the form of a thought, a Bible verse, or an image. In this case, ask Him the meaning of the image.

[SELAH]

Next, check what the Bible says about it to make sure that it's biblical, then renounce the lie out loud and confess the truth.

It's possible that you believe several lies. If so, do the same thing for each lie that you believe and confess on a regular basis the truths that the Holy Spirit has revealed to you.

Personally, I do this exercise whenever I don't feel free to obey God.

[SELAH]

ut the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will ach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to bu.  John 14:26

## **Day 11**

## Speaking in tongues

## to activate your spirit

Click here to listen to the audio

Hello, my friend,

Congratulations, you're on your 11th day!

May I pray for you right now?

Heavenly Father, I pray for my friend right now. Holy Spirit, come to my friend's aid in prayer, build up his/her inner being, and give Your child access to the things that the Father has given us through His grace. In Jesus' name, amen.

I invite you to make yourself comfortable and give 100% of your attention to Jesus for the next 15 minutes. Smile, breathe deeply.

The Father sent us the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of revelation to lead us in our spiritual lives (Ephesians 1:17).

You are not alone...simply surrender yourself totally to the Holy Spirit and let Him guide you. In your own words, now invite the Holy Spirit to give you revelations during this time of prayer.

[SELAH]

If you're listening to the audio, you can close your eyes and let the sound of my voice guide you if you'd like.

But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him." But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things 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 know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

1 Corinthians 2:9-12

God has prepared things for you because He loves you.

It's a bit like a father preparing a treasure hunt for his children. He hides things for them to find, but they have to follow the clues; otherwise, it's impossible to find the treasure.

In the same way, the Holy Spirit is with you to guide you to the things that God has prepared out of love for you.

My friend, I invite you to express to God how thirsty you are to know the things that your Heavenly Father has hidden for you.

[SELAH]

Do you sometimes not know how to pray?

The Holy Spirit is here to help us as we pray. The apostle Paul heavily relied on the Holy Spirit to pray.

In the same way the Spirit [comes to us and] helps us in our weakness. We do not know what prayer to offer or how to offer it as we should, but the Spirit Himself [knows our need and at the right time] intercedes on our behalf with sighs and groanings too deep for words. And He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because the Spirit intercedes [before God] on behalf of God's people in accordance with God's will.

Romans 8:26-27 (AMP)

These sighs and groanings he's talking about are those of prayer in the Spirit, praying in tongues. Praying in tongues is a gift that God has provided for all His children. It's a promise Jesus made before He ascended into heaven:

And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues;

Mark 16:17

Though speaking in tongues is a miraculous sign when listeners understand it as they did during Pentecost (Acts 2), it's especially advantageous to the one who is praying in the Spirit.

In fact, to pray in tongues is to pray in the Spirit and not with our minds.

For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful.

1 Corinthians 14:14 (NIV)

Since our thoughts often interfere with what we receive in our spirits, speaking in tongues enables us to put our minds to rest and activate our spirits—in other words, make them more alert to receiving what God is saying to us.

My friend, please understand that speaking in tongues is not a sign of maturity or of perfection.

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal.

1 Corinthians 13:1

Praying in tongues isn't a distinction among Christians but a "tool" that God gives us to build us up in the Spirit. In fact, praying in tongues is allowing the Holy Spirit to pray through me and especially for me. When I pray in tongues, the Holy Spirit asks God what I truly need, according to the Father's will.

He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself...

1 Corinthians 14:4

Imagine that your spirit is like a house made of stone. Every time you speak in tongues, the Holy Spirit adds a stone that builds you up in the Spirit.

I waited four years between my water baptism and my baptism in the Holy Spirit. That day, I spoke in tongues, an indescribable joy filled me, and it was like there was fire in my outstretched arms to God as well as on my face. I was so touched by His love that I wept. Unfortunately, due to a lack of teaching about it, I didn't make speaking in tongues a habit during my times with God.

When I discovered that I could grow spiritually by speaking in tongues, I started doing it more regularly and for longer periods of time. That's when inspired thoughts started suddenly arising in me. So I decided to make it a habit, and at first, I would look at my watch to make sure that I prayed in tongues for at least 10 minutes without stopping.

Sometimes Christians are afraid of the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues. In fact, to our minds, it's incomprehensible—it may even seem crazy!

Therefore if the whole church comes together in one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those who are uninformed or unbelievers, will they not say that you are out of your mind?

1 Corinthians 14:23

For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries.

1 Corinthians 14:2

It is by faith that we should regularly speak in tongues, believing that the Holy Spirit is interceding for us, that we're speaking mysteries to God, and that it's edifying us.

I personally experienced lightning-fast improvement in my spiritual life when I began speaking in tongues for one hour each day. Here's a testimony from Claire that illustrates this fact:

I had blockages about speaking in tongues. I thought more about what I was saying than about letting myself be guided by the Holy Spirit.

So I asked the Lord to show me this blockage, and while I was silent and listening to the Lord's voice, I let Him guide me. An image came to me: I was by the sea, which was impressively calm, and then the Lord breathed to me, "This is your blockage."

At first, I didn't understand what He meant. Then He challenged me, saying, "Let go."

I didn't dare to, and then He reassured me, "Don't be afraid of anything; be confident."

As soon as I started speaking in tongues, the sea became restless. And the more I spoke, the more the waves came and refreshed me, and a voice told me, "Keep going!"

The more I did, the more refreshed and invigorated I was.

Now I know why speaking in tongues is edifying...because it refreshes and strengthens my spirit. Glory to God!

Claire, Switzerland

My friend, if you don't speak in tongues yet, I want to pray for you right now so that the Holy Spirit, who's already within you, will cause this prayer language to rise up in you and come forth. Don't be afraid...surrender to Him and trust Him with your tongue.

Father, I ask You right now to plunge my friend into Your river, to baptize Your child in Your Spirit and give him/her a prayer language so that he/she can pray and be edified in the Spirit. In Jesus' name, amen.

Now open your mouth and worship Jesus, let His river burst forth in you and overflow, let His joy fill you and His love saturate you.

If you already speak in tongues, I invite you to pray in the Spirit for several minutes without stopping.

At the end, start listening to God and ask Him what He wants to tell you. Write in your journal what you've received, and then examine it as we've discussed in previous days.

[SELAH]

Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? ..."

John 14:9-10

## Day 12 Come into the Father's arms

Click here to listen to the audio

Hello, my friend,

Congratulations, you're on your 12th day!

May I pray for you right now?

Heavenly Father, thank You for adopting my friend. I pray that You would reveal the greatness of Your love to him/her so that no fear can prevent my friend from enjoying Your presence. In Jesus' name, amen.

I invite you to make yourself comfortable and give 100% of your attention to Jesus for the next 15 minutes. Smile, breathe deeply.

My friend, the Father loves you so much. He loves you more than you could ever imagine; His love for you is constant, unconditional. He has called you His child.

Come into His arms and express your love to Him in return with your own words.

#### [SELAH]

If you're listening to the audio, you can close your eyes and let the sound of my voice guide you if you'd like.

My friend, when you think about God the Father, when you draw near to Him, how do you picture Him in your mind's eye? What emotions do you feel in your heart?

### [SELAH]

God is love, yet most of His children find it difficult to pray. Jesus said,

But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place...

Matthew 6:6

He's waiting for you there in the secret place. But many shut their doors and stay outside for fear of disturbing God.

The image you have of God is a mental construct that's based on truths...but also on lies that you've believed in your relationship with your parents or throughout your life.

Each of these thoughts leads to attitudes on your part when it comes to God.

If you see God with His arms crossed, passive and cold, it's likely that you subconsciously think that He's insensitive to your difficulties. These thoughts, in turn, lead to a lack of desire to draw near Him or anger at this supposed lack of attention from Him.

Moreover, if you picture God seated on an inaccessible throne, then you may have concluded that He doesn't even know you and that it's impossible to have real intimacy with Him. You may then seek to get His attention with informative prayers and religious performances.

If you were abandoned by your earthly father, you may feel fearful of becoming attached to God.

If your parents were too demanding, full of criticism, or didn't show you affection, your heart probably doesn't want to hear what God desires to tell you for fear of being hurt.

All these misconceptions about God can become blockages or limitations to hearing His voice.

Would you like to be closer to God and know Him as He really is? Tell Him in your own words right now.

[SELAH]

Let's look together at what the Bible says about your Heavenly Father:

O LORD, you have examined my heart and know everything about me. You know when I sit down or stand up. You know my thoughts even when I'm far away. You see me when I travel and when I rest at home. You know everything I do. You know what I am going to say even before I say it, LORD. You go before me and follow me. You place your hand of blessing on my head.

Psalms 139:1-5 (NLT)

"Is not Ephraim my dear son, the child in whom I delight? Though I often speak against him, I still remember him. Therefore my heart yearns for him; I have great compassion for him," declares the LORD.

Jeremiah 31:20 (NIV)

"I myself will tend my sheep and give them a place to lie down in peace, says the Sovereign LORD. I will search for my lost ones who strayed away, and I will bring them safely home again. I will bandage the injured and strengthen the weak..."

Ezekiel 34:15-16a (NLT)

For God has said, "I will never fail you. I will never abandon you."

Hebrews 13:5b (NLT)

He will feed his flock like a shepherd. He will carry the lambs in his arms, holding them close to his heart. He will gently lead the mother sheep with their young.

<u>Isaiah 40:11</u> (NLT)

"I taught Ephraim to walk, taking them by their arms; but they did not know that I healed them. I drew them with gentle cords, with bands of love, and I was to them as those who take the yoke from their neck. I stooped and fed them."

Hosea 11:3-4

"And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent."

John 17:3

Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him."

John 14:23

"For the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me, and have believed that I came forth from God."

John 16:27

My friend, now let His Word release truth into your heart and drive out every fear of drawing near to Him.

[SELAH]

Your Father God is close to you, attentive to what you're experiencing. Believe Him when you pray so that you can open yourself to His comfort.

God thinks about you all the time; He is full of tenderness towards you.

You can expect His help because His love for you isn't the product of your requests...He loved you first. The Father is faithful; He will never abandon you. His love is deeply affectionate.

Jesus came to reveal the Father so that we could draw near to Him and be in His arms. He insists on the fact that the Father Himself loves us.

Eternal life is to know God...in other words, to be in real communion with Him.

I invite you to pray this prayer:

Father, thank You for loving me. I am choosing today to renounce the lie that You are distant, cold, indifferent, passive, demanding, critical, or too busy. I forgive my parents for not correctly representing You.

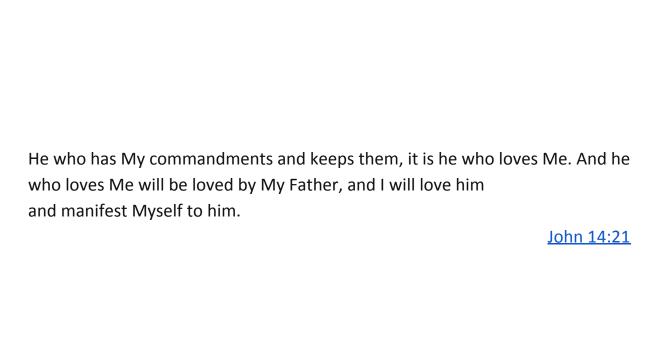
I joyfully accept the truth that You are good, warm, affectionate, attentive, near to me, full of lovingkindness, and that You want to be in communion with me. Thank You, Father, that I am Your beloved child. I run into Your arms now and receive Your love.

I invite you to take out your journal now and write the following question:

"Father, what do You want to tell me about Yourself?"

Stay centered on His love and write down the spontaneous images or thoughts that you receive. Then examine what you've received, comparing it with the Bible.

[SELAH]



## Day 13 Feel the Father's love

Click here to listen to the audio

Hello, my friend,

Congratulations, you're on your 13th day!

May I pray for you right now?

Heavenly Father, I pray that You would show my friend Your affection right now. Come and touch his/her entire being so that it would be a testimony that it's indeed You who's speaking to him/her. In Jesus' name, amen.

I invite you to make yourself comfortable and give 100% of your attention to Jesus for the next 15 minutes. Smile, breathe deeply.

God loves you tenderly. Thank Him now for adopting you.

### [SELAH]

If you're listening to the audio, you can close your eyes and let the sound of my voice guide you if you'd like.

My friend, God created you. He is Spirit and has no body, but He can touch yours.

We show our affection to those we love through hugs, embraces, or smiles that are nonverbal expressions of love, appreciation, or encouragement. If we have this capacity, God does, too, because we were created in His image.

As you've been listening to God recently, have you felt Him in a special way? The Bible contains many encounters with God where humans have physically or emotionally experienced contact with their Creator.

For example, Elizabeth felt John the Baptist leap for joy inside of her when Mary, who was already pregnant with Jesus, came to greet her.

For indeed, as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy.

Luke 1:44

The disciples who met Jesus on the road to Emmaus didn't believe in His resurrection, despite the testimony of the women who had found the tomb empty and seen angels telling them that the Lord was alive. These two disciples were blinded by their unbelief and sadness.

But when Jesus spoke to them, though they didn't recognize Him, they felt their hearts burning within them. This was proof for them that it was, in fact, Jesus who had spoken to them before He disappeared right before their eyes.

And they said to one another, "Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?"

Luke 24:32

Have you ever felt goosebumps when you heard a verse or the words of a praise song?

Do you ever cry when God comes close to you?

Do you feel His peace overwhelm you or the warmth of His presence manifest in your physical body?

Or maybe you tremble as if an electric current is coursing through you when the Holy Spirit comes and touches you. Have you ever danced before Him or laughed because His joy so filled you that you couldn't contain it?

Have you ever felt a ray of sunshine on your face as if you were out in the bright sunlight?

Have you experienced a sense of weightiness in your hands as you lifted them up to God?

All of these reactions are biblical and normal in the presence of God.

He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.

John 14:21

If you've ever felt God's presence in any of these ways, I invite you now to thank Him in your own words for manifesting Himself to you.

[SELAH]

My friend, God is real.

When you pray, you're not speaking into the void; your words aren't empty! God comes to meet you, and He manifests Himself to you. In other words, He shows you His presence in a concrete, tangible, and palpable way so that you're assured that He's there.

Just like you can stay in your spouse's arms without speaking while sharing genuine affection, God loves to take you into His arms. It's a message in its own right. So the next time this happens to you, focus on God's manifestation, welcome it, be thankful.

For example, you can say, "Thank You, Lord, for Your love filling me; thank You, Lord, for Your strength that I feel within me. Do whatever You want in me; I give You complete permission, Holy Spirit."

If you're still having trouble hearing His voice but do feel His presence, that's a good start. Persevere in seeking His presence, and once He manifests Himself to you, open your heart to Him even more...it won't be long before you hear Him!

My friend, the reason I'm talking to you about the manifestation of God's presence is because it can be an additional inner witness when you hear God's voice.

If, for example, you're doubting that what you just received (or are receiving) in your mind is from God but do feel this inner witness, then your faith can rely on it to dare to continue listening to what the Spirit tells you.

Has this happened to you over the last few days? I'll leave you to think about it in light of what I just shared with you.

### [SELAH]

This inner witness isn't a substitute for examining what you've received in light of the Bible, but if you pay attention to it, it will help you receive more revelation.

My friend, today, I encourage you to ask God to come and touch you. Relax and open your hands, palms facing heaven, as if you were awaiting a gift.

God Himself is the gift. You may be surprised at the way He manifests Himself to you, but trust the Holy Spirit.

When you start to feel His presence, simply say:

"Thank You, Lord, for Your presence. I pray that You would increase the manifestation of Your Spirit in me. MORE, Lord!"

Afterwards, write what you felt in your journal.

Say to Him now:

Father, You promised that You would come and manifest Yourself to the one who loves You and keeps Your commandments. Here I am...I pray that You'd come and manifest Yourself to me. In Jesus' name, amen.

Wait for Him, He's coming...He is so close to you! I invite you to pray softly in tongues if you can.

### [SELAH]

See you tomorrow! Don't forget that He can touch you at any moment!

Do not despise prophecies. Test all things; hold fast what is good. 1 Thessalonians 5:20-21

### **Day 14**

## Treasure what you receive

Click here to listen to the audio

Hello, my friend,

Congratulations, you're on your 14th day!

May I pray for you right now?

Heavenly Father, thank You for the precious words that You've given Your son/daughter. Thank You that You have so much more to give him/her. May his/her faith and thirst increase for more precise revelations. In Jesus' name, amen.

I invite you to make yourself comfortable and give 100% of your attention to Jesus for the next 15 minutes. Smile, breathe deeply.

Your journal must be starting to fill up with everything that God has told you. I encourage you to take a few moments to reread what you've received from the Lord over the last several days.

### [SELAH]

If you're listening to the audio, you can close your eyes and let the sound of my voice guide you if you'd like.

My friend, what you've received so far is a beginning, a glimpse of what God wants to do in you.

Are you thirsting for more? Share this with God right now in your own words.

### [SELAH]

A good way to demonstrate your thirst for God is to cherish what you've already received, to meditate on it, to dwell on these precious revelations in your heart. That's why I want to speak with you today about the importance of keeping a journal.

For a long time, I neglected to write down what God was telling me.

But since keeping a journal, I've made constant progress in my spiritual life. Every year, I reread my journal from the past year and summarize it. It's encouragement in its purest form to read and reread it without reservation.

I put what God told me together into a continuous text, removing my unanswered questions.

Yes, I, too, often ask questions I don't get answers to! But I prefer to concentrate on what God has told me rather than on what He hasn't told me.

If God says the same thing to me over and over again (does this happen to you, too?), it's because it's especially important!

I often note in my journal the answered prayers, the healing testimonies, and the blessings I've received. Putting them together helps me remember in a few minutes everything that God has done in me, for me, or through me during the year.

We have a tendency to remember the problems and quickly forget the blessings. We can then develop an attitude of lament rather than thankfulness.

Furthermore, since God doesn't change, His faithfulness will be just as new the following year. So, I can base my faith on what He's already done as I look to Him in the future.

When I reread my journal (actually, I do this several times a year), it helps deepen my understanding of the revelations I've received.

I'm so easily distracted. The renewal of the mind is a continual process that must be intentional.

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Romans 12:2

By rereading what God told me, I can focus and pursue what was "under construction" in me. Sometimes I write a particular sentence and post it on my office wall to remind me of it constantly.

My friend, did you write in a journal before this training?

This is the perfect opportunity to continue doing so after this prayer journey—you won't regret it!

I'd recommend you write the date above each new paragraph.

When I reread my journal, I also realize what I've learned. In fact, God often has to repeat something to me until it becomes a matter of course.

Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. For me to write the same things to you is not tedious, but for you it is safe.

Philippians 3:1

Evaluating my progress is really encouraging. Looking back on the journey you've had will also strengthen your soul for the future.

Moreover, I'm often challenged when I reread my journal with God. In fact, sometimes God gives me directives through the encouragement and revelations. Rereading these directives helps me check my obedience and fight a powerful enemy: procrastination!!

In fact, this enemy is me! Real obedience must be quick.

For example, God may tell me to make a certain project a priority. One month later, I might reread my journal and see that I haven't even started the project, even though God told me 4 times since then to make it a priority.

I'm then confronted with my stubbornness, and this pushes me to obey.

My friend, since you've made progress in the last few days, I encourage you to ask God questions about what you've received, seen, and felt during your recent times of listening to Him.

For example, what is the meaning of a vision, the warmth you felt, or the dream you had?

Start a conversation by writing the question that you'd like to ask God in your journal, then relax and enter into the Holy Spirit's presence within you. Write down what spontaneously comes to you. You can then continue the conversation on the same topic or bring up a different subject.

[SELAH]

So the LORD spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. And he would return to the camp, but his servant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, did not depart from the tabernacle. **Exodus 33:11** 

# Day 15 Stay a little longer

Click here to listen to the audio

Hello, my friend,

Congratulations, you just completed your second week!

May I pray for you right now?

Heavenly Father, I pray for Your child right now. I pray that You would strengthen his/her faith and make him/her even more thirsty to be in Your presence, to hear Your voice. May Your revelations be more precious than gold in his/her heart. In Jesus' name, amen.

I invite you to make yourself comfortable and give 100% of your attention to Jesus for the next 15 minutes. Smile, breathe deeply.

Do you enjoy spending time with God? It's quality time that you're giving Him; He loves your presence, too. Think about it for a moment—God loves to have you all to Himself!

### [SELAH]

If you're listening to the audio, you can close your eyes and let the sound of my voice guide you if you'd like.

Since you've been listening to God, have your prayer times been different?

Does God seem closer?

Take a moment to thank Him for His closeness.

### [SELAH]

When I prayed in the morning in my church in Quebec, God asked me several times to stay a little longer with Him as I was preparing to take care of my pastoral work.

The first few times, I was expecting a special revelation or an extraordinary experience. It took me some time to understand that God simply enjoys being with me, as a friend.

My friend, do you want to be God's friend?

While the Father adopted you when you were born again, friendship is something that develops and is reserved for those who seek to be in the Father's presence.

Many promises are associated with becoming God's friend.

Here is one that I'm particularly fond of:

The LORD is a friend to those who fear him. He teaches them his covenant.

Psalms 25:14 (NLT)

The secret of the LORD is with those who fear Him, and He will show them His covenant.

Psalms 25:14

Just as people confide in their closest friends, entrusting them with their secrets, God reveals His secrets to His friends.

Since the beginning of this prayer journey, I've invited you to spend about 15 minutes each day listening to God. We're on day 15, and I'd like to congratulate you for your perseverance. You've given 3 hours and 30 minutes so far.

Now I'd like to sow the idea that you can experience MORE.

So the LORD spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. And he would return to the camp, but his servant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, did not depart from the tabernacle.

**Exodus 33:11** 

Joshua did not leave the tabernacle. He understood that it was the best place, the place where God spoke to Moses.

Would you have liked to have been in Joshua's place and stayed in the tabernacle?

Elijah was also a man who stood before God. It was his only qualification, and he was used mightily by God.

And Elijah the Tishbite, of the inhabitants of Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the LORD God of Israel lives, **before whom I stand**, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, except at my word."

1 Kings 17:1 (emphasis added)

Mary, Lazarus' sister, also understood that listening to Jesus is the best thing to do.

"But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her."

Luke 10:42

In Joshua's time, God spoke only in the tabernacle. In Elijah's time, He addressed only the prophets, and later, the only way to hear Jesus was if you were at His feet, right by Him.

The good news for us is that we can listen to the Holy Spirit at any time, in any place, because He dwells inside each of God's children. That's why Jesus said,

Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.

John 16:7

My friend, do you realize that it's better to have the Holy Spirit in you than to have Jesus in the flesh standing right before you?

If Jesus came to your home for dinner, would you give Him your full attention? I'm sure that you wouldn't answer the phone and that the TV would be turned off. I'm sure that you'd do everything you could to keep Him there as long as possible.

The Holy Spirit is here *all* the time, but it's up to you to stop and take time with Him.

My friend, what's preventing you from lingering a bit longer with Jesus?

#### [SELAH]

I recently spoke with a friend who, like you, had listened to this teaching about God's voice and had taken 10 minutes each day to listen to Him. My friend was content with that time of intimacy. Several years later, during a seminar, he was invited to take a full hour of silence every day for 5 days to listen to God. He received such revelations from the Lord that his life was turned upside down!

My friend, I want to share with you today what Jesus told me:

"My child, stay a little longer..."

This session lasts 15 minutes like the others, but at the end, there's a link for an instrumental song that's 15 minutes long. You can listen to it as many times as you'd like, as many times as your thirst compels you. A few other songs will also be included in upcoming days.

I invite you to pray with me:

Father, here I am. I'm thirsting for You. I want to be Your friend, to deeply enjoy Your presence, to make You my delight. Holy Spirit, I ask You to forgive me for neglecting to seek communion with You. I choose today to pursue You with all my heart. In Jesus' name, amen.

Take out your journal, relax, and abandon yourself in the Father's arms.

Ask Jesus to speak to you about this verse:

However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.

John 16:13

"Lord, what do You want to tell me about the Holy Spirit?"

[SELAH]

Simply write down what's spontaneously coming to you.

Then write:

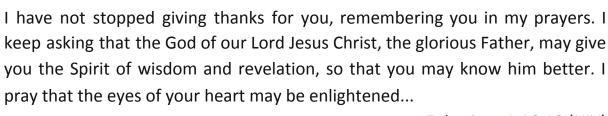
"Holy Spirit, what do You want to reveal to me today?"

Write what you receive in your journal, then examine it in light of the Bible.

[SELAH]

See you tomorrow!

**P.S.** <u>Click here</u> to take some more time with God while listening to instrumental music.



**Ephesians 1:16-18 (NIV)** 

## **Day 16**

# Look with your spiritual eyes

Click here to listen to the audio

Hello, my friend,

Congratulations, you're on your 16th day!

May I pray for you right now?

Heavenly Father, I pray for Your son/daughter right now and ask You to open his/her spiritual eyes and give my friend visions. Show him/her what You're doing. In Jesus' name, amen.

I invite you to make yourself comfortable and give 100% of your attention to Jesus for the next 15 minutes. Smile, breathe deeply.

One of God's names is "the God who sees me." Hagar, Abraham's servant, called God this name after realizing that He was watching over her as she fled alone into the middle of the desert. (Genesis 16:13)

As you're going through this prayer journey, God sees you.

He's attentive to your faith and your perseverance. Your Heavenly Father is rejoicing in your progress.

[SELAH]

If you're listening to the audio, you can close your eyes and let the sound of my voice guide you if you'd like.

My friend, have you had mental images, "visions," since the beginning of this training?

Maybe you didn't dare to call them visions, but perhaps you have seen things. Some of them are easy to understand. Others are mysterious and may have led you to believe that it was your imagination.

Yet if you think back, these images had an impact on you. They stirred your emotions, sparked your curiosity, perhaps so much so that you can no longer dismiss them.

If you didn't dare to write or draw them in your journal, do so now, or reread the visions you spontaneously received over the past few days.

[SELAH]

Just like you can hear God in your thoughts, you can also see what He shows you.

Receiving visions is a promise for all of God's children first announced by the prophet Joel and later quoted by Peter on the day of Pentecost.

"'And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, that I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions, your old men shall dream dreams."

Acts 2:17

There are many types of visions, ranging from subtle mental images to visions of the spiritual world like Elisha and his servant experienced when they saw the chariots of fire that God had sent to protect them.

And Elisha prayed, and said, "LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." Then the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

2 Kings 6:17

I'd like to give you some advice about how to best respond to visions.

First of all, know that visions are a first step in a conversation with God. He initiates them to get your attention. That's why it's important to focus on what you see without reasoning in your mind so that you don't miss anything He's showing you.

I recommend that you describe what you saw or draw it, if possible, in your journal. Then, ask the Holy Spirit what the vision means.

Visions are powerful because they make it possible to quickly communicate a lot of information, more than words do. If you had to describe a landscape for someone to feel the same way he/she would if actually seeing it, it would be nearly impossible!

When visions are simple images, the message speaks to us right away. For example, if you see yourself in God's arms, the feeling of comfort and security will be powerfully imprinted in your heart.

Here is a testimony from Nicole:

After a few minutes in Jesus' presence (I met Him in the Spirit), I saw myself in a large garden. Everything was huge and magnificent. The trees were very green with big leaves, and there was enormous fruit on the trees.

It was amazing.

I felt so wonderful in that garden. Then I saw a path, and **Jesus was waiting for me** there. He took my hand, and we walked towards a waterfall and a big river.

Jesus told me that if I drank from this river, I would never be thirsty again. I would never again lack anything.

Then, He took me in His arms and held me tightly to Himself. My heart beat fast, like a fiancée full of love for her beloved.

**I had an endless outpouring of love for Him; my heart burned within me**, and a feeling of peace and serenity filled me. I couldn't hold back my tears.

I wondered afterwards if it was normal to have feelings like this. And yesterday morning, my daily reading led me to <u>Hosea 2:19-20</u>. In this passage, God talks about making Israel His fiancée! This vision made me realize the greatness of God's love for me, much more than the words I'd already received. Thank You, Lord, for this vision!

#### Nicole

This testimony makes us all want to have this kind of experience, doesn't it? It's for you, too, my friend!

Some visions are mysterious, but remember that since God is their author, all you have to do is listen to Him—He will reveal their meanings to you. The prophet Zechariah had many visions, but sometimes he didn't understand them. So he asked God for the meaning of what he saw.

Now the angel who talked with me came back and wakened me, as a man who is wakened out of his sleep. And he said to me, "What do you see?" So I said, "I am looking, and there is a lampstand of solid gold with a bowl on top of it, and on the stand seven lamps with seven pipes to the seven lamps. Two olive trees are by it, one at the right of the bowl and the other at its left." So I answered and spoke to the angel who talked with me, saying, "What are these, my lord?" Then the angel who talked with me answered and said to me, "Do you not know what these are?" And I said, "No, my lord." So he answered and said to me: "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' says the LORD of hosts."

Zechariah 4:1-6

So don't fall into the trap of believing that a mysterious vision isn't from God because you don't understand it. Write it in your journal, then ask God about it. You may understand what it means later.

One last point: God can give you a vision anytime. So if a spontaneous image comes into your mind, pay attention and ask the Holy Spirit about it.

I now encourage you to take out your journal and write the following question:

"Holy Spirit, I entrust my spiritual eyes to You. What would You like to show me today?"

Relax, close your eyes, and don't make any effort to see something. Just stay focused on the presence of God in you.

If you see something, look carefully, and then describe it in your journal while asking the Holy Spirit questions.

[SELAH]

You can continue this time if you'd like and stay with God a little longer...

See you tomorrow!

**P.S.** <u>Click here</u> to listen to some instrumental music.

For God may speak in one way, or in another, yet man does not perceive it. In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falls upon men, while slumbering on their beds, then He opens the ears of men, and seals their instruction. In order to turn man from his deed, and conceal pride from man, He keeps back his soul from the Pit, and his life from perishing by the sword.

Job 33:14-18

# Day 17 Listen to God at night

Click here to listen to the audio

Hello, my friend,

Congratulations, you're on your 17th day!

May I pray for you right now?

Heavenly Father, thank You for revealing Yourself to Your son/daughter. I pray that You'd bless his/her nights, protect my friend's mind in sleep, and meet him/her in dreams. In Jesus' name, amen.

I invite you to make yourself comfortable and give 100% of your attention to Jesus for the next 15 minutes. Smile, breathe deeply.

If you're listening to the audio, you can close your eyes and let the sound of my voice guide you if you'd like.

My friend, when you sleep, God watches over you.

Behold, He who keeps Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.

Psalms 121:4

I invite you to thank Him for His protection in your own words.

#### [SELAH]

Not only does God keep you, but He speaks to you as well. Do you ever have dreams that leave you with a strong impression when you wake up?

Has this happened to you since this prayer journey started?

#### [SELAH]

My friend, when you sleep, your thoughts are at rest, but your spirit remains awake. Your spirit doesn't need sleep. So God can reach you more easily at night because your thoughts aren't interfering with what He wants to communicate with you.

- (...) the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask! What shall I give you?" And Solomon said: (...) Therefore give to Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil.
- (...) Then God said to him: "Because you have asked this thing, (...) behold, I have

done according to your words;" (...) Then Solomon awoke; and indeed it had been a dream.

1 Kings 3:4-15

Solomon had a conversation with God in a dream, the Lord asked him a question, and He heeded his answer while Solomon slept. When he woke up, Solomon remembered the dream that had seemed so real to him. In fact, it was real, in the Spirit. God then blessed Solomon according to what He had promised him that night.

A dream is simply a vision while the body sleeps. It has certain characteristics that I want to tell you about so that you don't miss what God is revealing to you at night.

First of all, it's important to have your journal close by you at night so that you can write down your dreams as soon as you wake up. This is because they tend to quickly fade from our memories.

Since your spirit is awake at night, remember that you can take action in your dreams—for example, you can refuse a temptation, call on Jesus, or choose to wake up. You don't have to suffer or put up with your dreams.

#### [SELAH]

Personally, I didn't have dreams or grant them any importance until the Holy Spirit prompted me to study this subject in the Bible. Then I discovered that God frequently uses dreams to speak to people, even those who don't believe in Him.

So if you're praying for someone whose heart is hardened, you can ask God to speak to that person in a dream (see Abimelech's dreams (<u>Genesis 20</u>), Pharaoh's dreams (<u>Genesis 41</u>), and Nebuchadnezzar's dream (<u>Daniel 2</u>)).

But if God warns you in a dream, it may also be because He hasn't been able to get your attention otherwise.

God trusts so much in the effectiveness of dreams that it's the means He chose to direct Joseph, Mary's husband. Through a dream, God instructed him to flee from Herod, who wanted to kill Jesus.

Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him." When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt

Matthew 2:13-14

Although dreams aren't always a matter of life and death, we must not let what God tells us fall by the wayside.

Now I invite you to tell God in your own words that you're choosing to listen to Him at night as well.

[SELAH]

If your dreams are sometimes mysterious, that's normal. You can go to God and ask Him what they mean, like Joseph did, because dream interpretations belong to Him.

And they said to him, "We each have had a dream, and there is no interpreter of it." So Joseph said to them, "Do not interpretations belong to God? Tell them to me, please."

Genesis 40:8

My friend, like Daniel, you can pray to receive interpretations as well as ask God for the ability to interpret dreams yourself.

As for these four young men, God gave them knowledge and skill in all literature and wisdom; and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.

Daniel 1:17

I'd like to finish by saying this: expect God to speak to you in the night. Pray before you go to sleep that God would visit you during the night.

I bless Adonai, my counselor; at night my inmost being instructs me.

<u>Psalms 16:7</u> (CJB)

If there's a specific dream that you remember, I encourage you to write it down in your journal now and ask God to explain it to you.

[SELAH]

If you don't have a dream right now, simply open your heart and ask God what He wants to tell you today.

I pray that you dream with God tonight.

You can continue this time if you'd like and stay with God a little longer...

See you tomorrow!

P.S. Click here to listen to some instrumental music.

But he who received seed on the good groun understands it, who indeed bears fruit and some sixty, some thirty.	

## **Day 18**

# Observe the fruit and persevere

Click here to listen to the audio

Hello, my friend,

Congratulations, you're on your 18th day!

May I pray for you right now?

Heavenly Father, thank You for everything You've done and will continue to do in Your son's/daughter's life. I pray that this prayer journey will be a turning point in his/her life, that there will be a radically different "before" and "after." May the words You've sown in his/her heart produce abundant fruit in my friend's life and in the lives of those close to him/her. In Jesus' name, amen.

If you're listening to the audio, you can close your eyes and let the sound of my voice guide you if you'd like.

I invite you to make yourself comfortable and give 100% of your attention to Jesus for the next 15 minutes. Smile, breathe deeply.

God is here. He's looking at your life and smiling; He's proud of your progress. Fix your attention on His love for a few moments.

[SELAH]

My friend, have you seen fruit from listening to God over the past 17 days?

What new experiences have you had?

Have you finally been able to put into words what you've experienced?

Are you able to become calm and listen more quickly?

Has your image of God changed?

Has your faith developed?

Has your identity as a child of God grown stronger?

Are you more confident in your ability to hear God's voice?

Take a few moments to reflect on this.

[SELAH]

I invite you to thank God for your progress in your own words.

#### [SELAH]

My friend, this prayer journey will soon come to an end, but you certainly shouldn't stop listening to God! It should become one of the foundations of your spiritual life.

My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

John 10:27

Your connection with God is developing right now, but you're the one who will decide whether it continues to grow or whether you'll stop it.

If certain people around you taunt you or don't understand you, have compassion regarding their ignorance, but don't let them discourage you.

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

Romans 8:14

If you feel you may be the only person listening to God in your Christian community, be a person of influence rather than blending in with the crowd!

Remember that just as you had a journey, doubts, and fears and had to discover what God had for you through faith, each person is on a journey.

The more your life bears the obvious fruits of listening to God, the more your credibility and influence will grow. So always adopt a humble, respectful, and love-filled attitude towards others.

So instead of always saying, "God has spoken to me," simply obey what He tells you, and when people ask what your secret is, share it. ;-)

I now have some good news and some bad news for you.

The bad news is that you're going to make mistakes, thinking that you've heard God, or you may have a wrong interpretation of a vision or dream.

That's normal—you're learning.

To be completely frank with you, you'll always have to take a risk by faith when God speaks to you. An "expert level" where faith is no longer required doesn't exist.

There's a passage about this that fascinates me. It's when God speaks to Moses in the burning bush and asks him to set His people free.

But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" So He said, "I will certainly be with you. And this shall be a sign to you that I have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

Exodus 3:11-12

The sign that Moses had indeed heard God would be the fulfillment of His promise after Moses had obeyed Him by faith. It's this faith that pleases God: trusting Him and then seeing His promises fulfilled. In other words, fruit is the result of obedience by faith.

So if you make mistakes, don't disqualify yourself, and don't reject everything altogether! Instead, follow Paul's counsel:

Do not scoff at prophecies, but test everything that is said. Hold on to what is good.

1 Thessalonians 5:20-21 (NLT)

My friend, when you eat chicken, you eat the meat and spit out the bones!

I've told you the good news: your ability to examine, interpret, and discern God's voice will grow with practice and as you remain firmly connected to the Scriptures. Also, if you surround yourself with spiritually-minded Christians, you'll be able to rely on each other for confirmations because don't forget:

For we know in part and we prophesy in part.

1 Corinthians 13:9

That's why normal Christian life happens in relationship with the body of Christ, in a spiritual family, and why no one can claim to be self-sufficient in his/her relationship with God.

We need each other.

So if you're currently isolated, I invite you to ask the Holy Spirit to lead you to a church where you can continue to grow in God. Don't hesitate to go on a bit of a journey to find a good church.

My friend, I encourage you now to take out your journal.

The best way to persevere on a road full of danger is to be assured that the destination is worth it.

Now focus on the Holy Spirit within you.

Here's what I'd suggest you ask God:

"Father, what will happen in my life if I keep listening to You?"

## [SELAH]

"Father, what do You want to tell me about my progress?"

## [SELAH]

You can continue this time if you'd like and stay with God a little longer...

See you tomorrow!

**P.S.** <u>Click here</u> to listen to some instrumental music.

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

<u>Psalms 119:105</u>

## **Day 19**

# His Word is your security

Click here to listen to the audio

Hello, my friend,

Congratulations, you're on your 19th day!

May I pray for you right now?

Heavenly Father, thank You for not leaving Your child alone to discover life led by Your Spirit. I pray that You would guide my friend in the Scriptures and make him/her unshakeable. I ask You to open his/her eyes to the treasures of Your Word. In Jesus' name, amen.

If you're listening to the audio, you can close your eyes and let the sound of my voice guide you if you'd like.

I invite you to make yourself comfortable and give 100% of your attention to Jesus for the next 15 minutes. Smile, breathe deeply.

My friend, do you realize the privilege it is to have a Bible in your own language? Millions of people don't have this privilege. Some because it's forbidden in their countries to have a Bible; others because it hasn't been translated into their languages yet. I encourage you to express your gratitude to God for having His written Word.

#### [SELAH]

My friend, we all tend to see in the Bible what validates our experiences or beliefs. It's a bit like wearing tinted glasses that prevent us from seeing other colors.

It's not just reading the Bible that reveals Jesus to us—we need the Holy Spirit to help us understand His Word.

The Pharisees in Jesus' time memorized the Scriptures, yet when Jesus fulfilled the prophecies they knew by heart before their very eyes, they didn't acknowledge Him as the Messiah and wanted to kill Him.

In order to really understand the Bible with the Holy Spirit's help, we must be willing to change, stop clinging to our own views, and open ourselves up to being taught by the Holy Spirit. The Word of God is alive and inspired by the Holy Spirit. It is mighty to transform us.

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness

2 Timothy 3:16

I invite you to place your glasses at Jesus' feet and ask Him to open your spiritual eyes and understanding to comprehend His Word.

[SELAH]

My friend, what is the Bible's place in your life?

The more you aspire to live a life led by the Spirit, the more you must be nourished by the Word of God.

Remember that God speaks to you in the way He chooses and that your listening isn't a means to force Him to respond to you with a spiritual revelation.

Many times, God has just told me, "Read My Word."

So if your journal includes unanswered questions, this is normal, if not desirable.

When He was on Earth, Jesus didn't answer all of His disciples' questions.

Don't wait for God to speak to you to obey what the Bible says. For example, forgive without waiting for God to tell you; flee from sin; and don't seek to marry a non-Christian, even if you had a dream about it!

My friend, the spiritual world is vast, and your enemy will try to turn you away from God through any means.

For example, if you have a vision, you may see an angel, which is biblical, but know that God's angels don't receive or seek worship. They are God's messengers and servants, sent to fulfill His Word.

And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.

2 Corinthians 11:14

And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he [the angel] said to me, "See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! ..."

Revelation 19:10

So you must always consider what the Bible teaches as superior to any revelation in the Spirit. This will protect you from the enemy's wiles.

My friend, I want to give you a picture that will help you to stay scriptural.

The Bible is like a trampoline.

A trampoline allows you to jump high and do acrobatic-like tricks. The more you jump down on a trampoline, the higher you bounce. Similarly, the Bible inspires our spiritual

experiences. The more we delve into the Word of God, the more we discover God's mysteries and the more we experience with the Holy Spirit.

These experiences may seem "acrobatic" to the rational mind, like having visions, speaking in tongues, or hearing God's voice. But as long as you fall back on the trampoline (the Bible), you're safe.

What's dangerous is to jump on a trampoline, do a backflip, and land on your back on the ground, next to the trampoline. Don't let the sensation/feelings aspect prevent you from examining whether your experience is biblical or not.

That's why you should always examine what you've received with the Bible and not only with your thoughts.

Concerning visions and dreams, they may not necessarily be in the Bible, but their interpretations must be in accordance with the Scriptures.

Alain wrote to me and shared that he had a vision. He didn't understand its meaning, and it seemed absurd to him. He couldn't find anything in the Bible to support it, and he thought it was a figment of his imagination. So he described it in his journal without much confidence. Are you wondering what his vision was?

It was a vision of a clumsy duck, seen from behind, moving slowly but surely, waddling from side to side on a straight path as it headed towards the horizon.

The following day, Alain asked God what it meant. God's answer was almost instantaneous: "Stay humble"!

The duck represented Alain and his walk with God.

Do you understand, my friend?

Ducks aren't mentioned once in the Bible; however, humility definitely is! The vision Alain had was thus very biblical and quite funny, too, because God has a sense of humor.

I encourage you now to take out your journal and begin listening to God. Rejoice in the security that His written Word gives you.

Write this question in your journal:

"Lord, what do You want to tell me about Your Word?"

[SELAH]

You can also ask Him this question:

"Lord, what do You want to tell me today?"

## [SELAH]

After writing down what comes to your spirit, examine what you've received in light of the Bible.

You can continue this time if you'd like and stay with God a little longer...

See you tomorrow!

**P.S.** <u>Click here</u> to listen to some instrumental music.

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

Jeremiah 29:11-13

# Day 20 Living a Spirit-led life

Click here to listen to the audio

Hello, my friend,

Congratulations, you're on your 20th day!

May I pray for you right now?

Heavenly Father, I pray for my friend, that You would increase his/her confidence in listening to You and making good decisions. In Jesus' name, amen.

If you're listening to the audio, you can close your eyes and let the sound of my voice guide you if you'd like.

I invite you to make yourself comfortable and give 100% of your attention to Jesus for the next 15 minutes. Smile, breathe deeply.

God has plans of peace and joy for you. Thank Him for this in your own words.

[SELAH]

My friend, God has good plans for your life. But they'll only be fulfilled if you partner with Him.

Your Heavenly Father isn't like a novelist writing a book where you're the main character. He doesn't decide everything in your life. In fact, God created you with a free will. It's proof of the immense love God has for you. He allows you to choose to listen to Him or not.

Being led by God is a bit like driving with a GPS. For a GPS to be useful, several parameters must be met.

First of all, you have to enter your destination into the GPS. It's like when you ask God for His help when making a decision. You need to ask Him specifically.

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

<u>James 1:5</u>

If you have the GPS turned on but don't look at it and the music in your car is playing louder than the directions, there's a strong chance you won't get to your destination. It's like prayer: once you've asked God a question, you have to start listening, get rid of the distractions, and pay attention. God can speak to us in so many ways!

I will stand at my watch and station myself on the ramparts; I will look to see what he [God] will say to me, and what answer I am to give to this complaint.

Habakkuk 2:1 (NIV)

When the GPS is set to a foreign language, you can listen to it, but you won't understand anything. In the last several days, you've learned to recognize God's voice. I know, you may be thinking that you've just begun, but take heart...you'll keep making progress!

Finally, once the address is typed in, the language set, and the radio turned off, you can decide whether or not to follow the GPS's instructions. It would be ridiculous to blame the GPS if we didn't follow each of these steps, yet that's often what we do.

So often people say to me, "Pastor, but I prayed about that decision!," and I ask, "And what did God say to you?" Many times, they don't have an answer.

My friend, do you realize that the Holy Spirit, who is God and omniscient (i.e. all-knowing), lives in you? You can thus make good decisions by relying on Him. Take a few moments to meditate on this verse:

"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts."

<u>Isaiah 55:8-9</u>

#### [SELAH]

The apostle Paul mentions that the peace of Christ rules in our hearts (<u>Colossians 3:15</u>). So we should be attentive to God's peace in our hearts. When the Holy Spirit wants to warn us of danger, He may choose to withdraw His peace. This absence of peace should be a signal that helps us make decisions.

But be careful—if the absence of peace is like a stop sign, its presence isn't the same as a green light. In fact, we can deceive ourselves, have hardened hearts, be enticed, be tempted. We may also lack faith by choosing a more comfortable solution. In each of these situations, a false peace can make us believe that we're in God's plan.

So here's my advice for making good decisions. Make sure you have confirmation from several different sources. It may be one or several verses, counsel you've received, a dream, a thought or vision you've gotten in prayer, God's peace, particular circumstances, an inner conviction, a prophetic word, your spouse's agreement, and/or the wisdom that comes from understanding the Scriptures.

By making sure that you have many confirmations, you'll avoid making bad decisions.

Remember that a good decision does not mean you'll have a path without obstacles.

You'll thus need to be able to rely on everything you've received from God in order to overcome difficulties.

As you've been learning to recognize God's voice, you may have wanted to ask His advice for all your decisions.

I'd suggest you avoid asking Him closed questions that have "yes" or "no" answers. You risk having trouble distinguishing His voice from your thoughts or inventing an answer if He's silent.

Instead, choose open-ended questions, such as:

"Lord, what do You think of this choice? What do You want to say to me about this decision?"

Then, after examining what you've received in light of the Scriptures, add it to the other aspects of your decision-making.

This way, you'll avoid becoming discouraged or making significant mistakes.

One decision at a time, your trust in God will deepen, and your life will become more and more like what He has planned for you.

My friend, I invite you now to take out your journal.

Focus on the Holy Spirit in you and ask Him to speak to you about these verses:

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Psalms 23:1-3

Let His thoughts come to you and simply write down what you receive.

[SELAH]

You can then ask Him questions about future or past decisions. It's never too late to change direction.

[SELAH]

You can continue this time if you'd like and stay with God a little longer...

See you tomorrow!

**P.S.** Click here to listen to some instrumental music.

But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all men,	John 2:24

## **Day 21**

## **Knowing people in the Spirit**

Click here to listen to the audio

Hello, my friend,

Congratulations, you're on your 21st and final day!

May I pray for you right now?

Heavenly Father, I pray for my friend, that You would reward his/her perseverance and thirst to seek You by opening up new dimensions in his/her spiritual life and that his/her relationships would be transformed by it. In Jesus' name, amen.

If you're listening to the audio, you can close your eyes and let the sound of my voice guide you if you'd like.

I invite you to make yourself comfortable and give 100% of your attention to Jesus for the next 15 minutes. Smile, breathe deeply.

God wants to bless your relationships.

[SELAH]

Relationships are one of the areas where listening to God makes the biggest difference. After all, God knows every heart.

Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him thus no longer.

2 Corinthians 5:16

Knowing according to the flesh is looking at what we see and hear from the person, what he/she does. But the Holy Spirit knows the depths of each person's heart, his/her motives and secret thoughts. Knowing someone according to the Spirit is seeing that person as God sees him/her.

Why is it important to see people from God's perspective?

Because appearances can mislead us.

Have you ever been deceived by appearances, my friend?

[SELAH]

This happens to everyone. For example, it happened to the prophet Samuel:

But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

1 Samuel 16:7 (NIV)

In this story, Samuel was drawn by David's brother's tall stature, while his father didn't even think to bring little David before the prophet. Yet, David was the one who had caught God's eye. God had seen his heart, but his own father had seen nothing.

You can ask God to speak to you about your children and spouse so that you can love and help them in the best ways possible.

Listening to God will protect you from seduction and flattery and help you connect with those God approves of more quickly.

When God tells me to get to know someone, I am more prudent and don't judge by appearances or beautiful words. On the other hand, sometimes God prompts me to trust someone more quickly than normal.

Barnabas, for example, considered Paul to be a brother more quickly than all the other disciples. It's easy to understand their reaction—Paul was persecuting the Church just prior to his radical conversion.

When Saul arrived in Jerusalem, he tried to meet with the believers, but they were all afraid of him. They did not believe he had truly become a believer! Then Barnabas brought him to the apostles and told them how Saul had seen the Lord on the way to Damascus and how the Lord had spoken to Saul. He also told them that Saul had preached boldly in the name of Jesus in Damascus.

Acts 9:26-27 (NLT)

A man steeped in high-level occultism had joined our church. He had totally abandoned his practices at the price of costly renunciations, and the signs of his conversion were clear. However, I still had reservations about him. One day, I saw him at a store, and after I greeted him politely but without affection, the Holy Spirit told me, "He's your brother!" I went back to tell him so and to welcome him with all my heart into the family of God.

My friend, before you associate with or separate from someone, ask God how He sees that person. If you're having trouble forgiving someone, ask the Holy Spirit to give you His perspective about that person.

The more you see people as God sees them, the less hastily you'll judge them and the more capable you'll be of loving them as He asks.

I invite you to take out your journal and ask the Holy Spirit to speak to you about someone who's close to you. Write this first question:

"Holy Spirit, which person would You like to speak to me about?"

Write the first name that comes to your spirit. Then write this question:

"Holy Spirit, what do You want to tell me about him/her?"

Stay focused on Jesus and not on the person...you're seeking God's opinion, not yours. :-)

[SELAH]

You can continue this time if you'd like and stay with God a little longer...

P.S. <u>Click here</u> to listen to some instrumental music.

## A final thought...

My friend, what you've experienced during these 21 days is just the beginning of what God has planned for you!

If you haven't been able to hear God, I invite you to repeat these 21 days. Remember...I, too, had trouble the first time. I've received several testimonies from people who experienced breakthroughs as they listened a second time.

I'd like to conclude by praying for you:

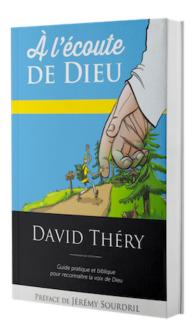
Heavenly Father, thank You for Your son/daughter who has spent this time listening to You. I pray that this would become his/her new way of life and that my friend's life would bear abundant fruit. I pray that Your son/daughter would fully enter into his/her destiny and the works that You've prepared in advance as he/she progresses in this journey of listening to You. In Jesus' name, amen.

### Conclusion

Congratulations, my friend! You've reached the end of this 21-day journey! If you enjoyed this training, please share it with your friends. It will help and bless them as well. When we learn how to listen to God in a group, we make progress more quickly because we can encourage one another.

If you'd like, feel free to start over again tomorrow on Day 1 or to go directly to the day that inspired you the most.

Thank you again for your commitment. I'm proud of you and pray your relationship with Jesus has grown and deepened. Glory to God! May He bless you as you continue listening to Him.



This prayer journey is an excerpt from my book À *l'écoute de Dieu* (*"Listening to God"* in English, but currently available only in French).

In addition to going into greater depth about the subjects I've covered during these 21 days, I discuss in this book how you can develop the gift of the word of knowledge as well as how to become a source of encouragement to others by sharing God's heart for them. You'll also discover the basis of Jesus' miraculous ministry: doing what God reveals and saying what He says. The people who see miracles are those who partner with the Holy Spirit, those who listen to Him!

I invite you to go to my website if you'd like to discover more about me or other books I've written: https://davidthery.com/