**Listen 1: We Can All Hear His Voice**

***Senior Pastor Chris Kam***

“I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you.” (John 16:12-15)

The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger’s voice.” (John 10:2-5)

My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. (John 10:27)



# Introduction

This is the beginning of a series of 4

1. Listen 1: We All Can Hear His Voice
2. Listen 2: We All Can Be Spiritually Alive and Revived
3. Listen 3: We All Can Prophesy
4. Listen 4: We All Can Build the Church

What is the last thing we see before we go to sleep each night and the first thing we reach out for when we get up in the morning? Instead of the spouse or the Bible, the answer to this question for many people is their mobile phone. In fact, to a certain extent, the phone has replaced the Holy Spirit. We get recommendations and advices from our phones rather that listening to God. When we received something that someone learned about God we forward them.

**Big idea: We can all hear the voice of God.**

We are His sheep. We all can hear His voice.

Why do we not hear from God? Adam and Eve were hiding from God because they sinned and hence they wanted to hide from God. The sinful nature makes us avoid God. The heart of the sin problem is the desire to be independent – to do things “my way”.

A good illustration is a radio station that transmits 24 x 7. We just need to tune in to hear the broadcast. When we do not hear from God, the problem lies with us, the receiver and not the transmitter (God). Why do we want to hear God? We are making decisions and we want directions. Many people only come to God when they need to make decision.

Sheep is obedient, it cannot navigate and cannot carry any burden.

# Image result for appointmentMake Time for God

To hear from God, we must make an appointment with God. We can go to God anytime but if we do not set an appointment with God, we may not have time for Him at all due to the busyness in our life. We make appointments with people we do not like every day. Why can we not make time for God who we profess to love.

If we want to know anyone better, we need to spend time with them. It can be our spouse or God.

Jesus Himself made appointments to meet God. He made time with God.

After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone. (Matthew 14:23)

In the midst of his busy life, Jesus, the Son of God made time to listen to his Father. How much more should we do the same?

Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. (Mark 1:35)

Prayer is not giving a long list of requests to God. The heart of prayer is listening to God. Jesus knew this. The busier His life got, the more He spent time with God.

One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God. 13 When morning came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them, whom he also designated apostles (Luke 6:12-13)

Jesu listened to God before He chose the twelve disciples.

Come near to God and he will come near to you. (James 4:8a)

Many of us are reading the Bible and praying incidentally. We need to do it intentionally.

God likes to come in a prepared atmosphere.

Can God not force Himself on us? He does not do that. He likes to be invited.

Making time with God every week is important but making time with God every day is equally as important.

# Make Room for His Word

Not only do we set the time, but we need to set the place to meet God. This is a place we decide to meet God every day. It can be at home, office, an eating place or even in the car.

He says, “Be still, and know that I am God; (Psalm 46:10)

Choose a place to be still with God. We tend to take busyness as productivity. It is not. Learning to be still before God is one of the most productive thing we can do.

You will not need to fight in this battle. Position yourselves, stand still and see the salvation of the Lord. (2 Chronicles 20:17)

In an impossible battle, God told King Jehosaphat to send the worship team to the front. They were told to be still in the face of the enemies. The enemies got confused and started killing each another. It is hard to stand still because we always want to do something. When we learn to be still we are learning to trust God.

The most anointed place is where God is. It can be anywhere. When we set an appointment with God, God will come in a powerful way.

I rise before dawn and cry for help; I have put my hope in your word. (Psalm 119:147)

Being still before God is a posture of humility. In our quiet time, we pray what God has laid in our hearts. We may have a systematic way to pray and that is good, but we still need to be sensitive to God and pray for the burdens that He puts in our hearts. We read the Bible. That’s easy. The problem is when we do not make an appointment with God. Find a Bible version you are comfortable with and read it. It is a personal thing, you who are the one reading. It is not about what other people are reading

# Image result for journalingMake Space for His Spirit

This is where we write down what we heard.

“All this,” David said, “I have in writing as a result of the Lord’s hand on me, and he enabled me to understand all the details of the plan.” (2 Chronicles 28:19)

There is value in writing down what God told us.

Then the Lord replied: “Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it. (Habakkuk 2:2)

In the Bible, we read that often people listened to God and write down what they heard. In DUMC, we encourage everyone to do journaling using the SOAR (Scripture, Observation Application and Response) method.

How can we recognize the voice of God? There are 3 voices that we hear; our own voice, the voice of the devil and the voice of God.

But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. (John 16:13)

The ministry of the Holy Spirit is to bring to us clarity about our lives. We learn to recognize the Word of God over time. The Holy Spirit will never contradict the Word of God.

Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. (Psalm 37:4)

Some of our desires are not of God. When we take delight in the Lord, God will replace those desires not of God with those that please God.

Click on image to view the video of Pastor Bill Hybels explain the importance of having quiet time.



Sermon summary contributed Loong.

Prayer Points by Michelle.



* **SERMON: We All Can Hear His Voice**

**Pray**

* God's people will desire to hear from Him.
* We will intentionally set aside ourselves to seek His Holy presence daily.
* People of God will place importance in reading His Word to be productive for Him.
* We will allow the Holy Spirit to use us in spreading God’s revelation through sharing what we hear by writing notes and messages for others.

***"Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.” (Revelations3:20)***

**MINISTRIES & EVENTS: CHURCH PRAYER ALTAR**

**1 JULY 2017, 7am to 9am in Room 101/102**

**Pray:**

* God will convict the hearts of all believers to rise up to the call for prayer every Saturday.
* God will inspire more people of God to step up and attend the Prayer Altar.
* God will enable His people to be present to his calling for this event.
* God will bless the leaders in charge with wisdom, knowledge and understanding to do His Will.

***For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. (Proverbs2:6)***

 **MALAYSIA MY NATION: Future of Malaysia**

**All Malaysians**

**Pray:**

* All Malaysians will work together in unity with the government for the betterment of the nation.
* The leadership in Malaysia will hear and understand the needs of the people and work together for the betterment of the nation.
* The leadership of the churches to train God's people to impact the society in the marketplace with the right understanding of their role in nation building.
* God’s authority will prevail in all circumstances which arise in our country and we are thankful for all His grace and mercies

***I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people- for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. (1 Timothy2 :1-2)***

* **A TRANSFORMED WORLD: Brunei**

**Pray:**

* God's protection on His people who are showing the love of Christ to those from the darkness.
* God’s strength, comfort and protection upon Christians who are living in Brunei especially during this festive season.
* The rulers will have the same special encounter with Jesus.
* God to open the eyes of those who live in darkness to see the light through dreams, visions and hearing from the Holy Spirit.

***But you Lord, are a shield around me, my glory the One who lifts my head high. (Psalm 3:3)***