

HOW TO KNOW IF YOU
ARE REALLY HEARING
GOD'S VOICE
WHAT DOES GOD'S VOICE

SOUND LIKE?

CHECK LIST

CHARACTERISTICS OF GOD'S THOUGHTS

First we understand that God can communicate to humans in various ways.

God's communication may take the form of spontaneous thoughts that light upon the mind, vision or pictures (Heb 12:2; 1 Cor 12:10), dreams (Acts 16:9), emotions (Gal 5:22-23), the presence of peace or pressure in one's spirit, circumstances (Jonah), flowing revelation of God to the heart (1 Cor 2:9-10), illuminated Scripture, the body of Christ, a donkey, etc. God desires to speak specifically to our hearts and situations, but we must learn to recognize when and how He speaks. Here we look at how to recognize God's voice as His thoughts to you.

1. When God speaks to you, His thoughts come spontaneously. God's thoughts are not received in your normal cognitive analytical process. When we think about a thing, we move from one idea to the next, then the next. When you receive God's thoughts, it will seem like an idea or thought just dropped into your mind.

2. God's thoughts often are light and gentle, easily cut off by any exertion of the personal selfwill.

3. God's thoughts flow easily and are expressed in first person. For example, "The Lord has appeared of old to me, saying: 'Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore, with lovingkindness I have drawn you' " (Jeremiah 31:3 NKJV).

4. God's thoughts will be expressed through your own personal style and speech, just as the each of the Gospel writer's personalities came through in their writings.

5. God's thoughts will be wiser, more healing, more loving and more concerned about the inner heart motive than your own personal thoughts.

6. God's thoughts will cause a special reaction inside you. They will cause excitement, conviction, faith, life, awe, joy, love, and peace. Negative or accusing thoughts are not God.

7. When you embrace God's thoughts, there is a grace, strength, and joy to carry out His thoughts and words.

8. As you continue to recognize God's thoughts, your personal spiritual senses are trained. You become more and more sensitive to God's various ways of communication to you.

9. This is how Jesus lived and ministered to others (John 5:19-20; 30).