

HOW TO HEAR GOD SPEAKPSALM 19

Pastor Matt McGill | 1/29/2023 | Pacific Coast Church

I. Listen

to God's creation.

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.
- 2 Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge. 3 They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them. 4 Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.

In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun. 5 It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, like a champion rejoicing to run his course. 6 It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth.

Continual

(day after day, night after night)

Universal

(all the earth, nothing is deprived)

Relational

(reveal glory, work of his hands)

II. Lean

on God's promises.

7 The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul.

The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

8 The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart.

The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes.

9 The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever.

The decrees of the LORD are firm, and all of them are righteous.

- Confusion
- Inspiration
- Conviction
- Application

III. Live

for God's pleasure.

10 They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb.

11 By them your servant is warned; in keeping them there is great reward. 12 But who can discern their own errors?

Forgive my hidden faults. 13 Keep your servant also from willful sins; may they not rule over me. Then I will be blameless, innocent of great transgression.

14 May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight,

LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.

GROW GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

A Grow Group is 8-16 people who gather weekly to study God's Word and the previous Sunday's message. There is a time of discussion, support, encouragement, and learning how the message applies to daily life. To learn more or join a group, visit pacificcoastchurch.org/gg/ or sign up at the patio Info Kiosk.

Point #1: Listen to God's creation

- > Read Psalm 19:1-14, then have a different person re-read vv. 1-6.
- > What does creation teach us about the character and nature of God? Try to stick with "just nature" and not teachings from the Scriptures.
- > What keeps you from listening to God's voice in creation? Are you too distracted, busy, anxious, overwhelmed, apathetic, discouraged ... or something else?

Point #2: Lean on God's promises

- > Read Psalm 19:7-9.
- > These verses outline four promises from God. His Word will refresh our souls, make us wise, give us joy, and give us

light/life. Describe a time when you've seen one of these happen, either in your own life or with someone close to you. > How would you explain verse 9 to a non-believer? What is the fear of the Lord and why is it pure?

Point #3: Live for God's pleasure

- > Read Psalm 19:10-14.
- > Based on your experience, where does selfishness show up consistently in our society?
- > Living to please God is counterintuitive and countercultural. We are taught to run after the things we want, and we are told that we "deserve" to be happy. This passage describes three ways we can live to please God: value his Word (v. 10), evaluate our lives (vv. 11-12), and confess our sins (v. 13). Which of these is currently a strength for you?

DAILY DEVOTIONS

These are provided for your personal spiritual growth. Prayerfully writing out your answers will help you experience real-life transformation as you dig deeper into the spiritual truths of God's Word and last Sunday's message. You can also download this tool at www.pacificcoastchurch.org/sermons.

MONDAY: Read Psalm 119:1-16

- What is the writer's relationship with the law, statutes, precepts, etc.? Be as specific as possible and make a list of keywords and phrases.
- For you personally, what does it mean to hide God's Word in your heart? (v. 11) When was the last time you practiced this habit?

TUESDAY: Read Psalm 119:33-48

- Make v. 33 your prayer, and then slowly re-read vs. 33-48. Based on this passage, what are one or two things you feel God is teaching you?
- In vv. 36-37, the psalmist asks God to turn his heart towards God's Word and to turn his eyes from worthless things. What makes something "worthless?" Do you have any "worthless things" in your life? If so, what are they?

WEDNESDAY: Read Psalm 119:57-72

- In v. 59, the psalmist considers his life and makes changes to follow God. What does personal examination look like in your own life? How often do you practice this habit? As you read these verses, what (if any) changes do you need to make?
- According to v. 71, God can use difficult times to teach us about his ways. Has this happened in your life? What was the last challenge you faced, and how did God use it to draw you closer to him?

THURSDAY: Read Psalm 119:89-104

- Why does it matter that God's Word is eternal and stands firm? In your life, what are some temporary things you rely upon too much? When was the last time you were severely disappointed, and what was the source of your disappointment? How might God's Word become a better substitute?
- Based on v. 100, what is the connection between understanding and obedience? In other words, what is the test of true understanding? What is the test of true obedience? In your life, are there some things you know about God that don't make a daily impact in how you live?

FRIDAY: Read Psalm 119:105-120

- When was the last time God's Word helped you through a difficult time? For you personally, how has God's Word been a lamp and a light?
- This passage speaks of suffering and affliction from others. When you hit a roadblock, what is your first instinct? Where do you first place your hope to receive the help you need? What could it look like for you to put v. 114 into practice?

SATURDAY: Read Psalm 119:161-176

- Being as specific as you can, make a list of the actions mentioned in verses 161-168. Mark one or two you do well and one or two you need to work on.
- Reread verses 169-172. In this prayer, the psalmist expresses both his requests and praises to God. Echo this prayer and make it personal: Where do you need God's help? What can you praise him for?

MEDITATION VERSE

May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer. (Psalm 19:14)