

# YOUR GREATEST BARRIER TO HEARING GOD'S VOICE

By DavidPaul Doyle

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**T**his article is probably going to get me into trouble, but I feel like the truth needs to come out. So I'm going to just say it, and then see if I can get myself out of hot water....

*Your beliefs about who and what God is impact your experience of hearing God's Voice more than you probably know.*

Whew... I said it. It's out in the open. Now let me explain.

I've been hearing God's Voice within me as a distinct and conversational voice for the past ten years. I've dedicated the past six years to teaching as many people as possible how to hear this Voice within them. I've spoken with thousands of people about their experiences of hearing God's Voice, and I've collected hundreds of stories from around the world to include in my latest book, *When God Spoke to Me: The Inspiring Stories Of Ordinary People Who Have Received Divine Guidance and Wisdom*. From all that I've learned and gained over the years, one of the most important and impacting factors in determining one's experience of hearing God's Voice are the thoughts and beliefs one holds about God.

Let me give you an example: Most people, whether consciously or unconsciously, experience or believe that they are separate from God, that God is somehow "out there" or "up there." Every single person and thing that we interact with in our lives is always outside of us, something "other" than who or what we are. Because this is our experience in the world, we naturally relate to God in the same way. In addition, because we are used to communicating with people in words, we naturally assume that God will communicate to us in words as well. There are many, if not dozens, of subtle assumptions and beliefs just like these that we hold about God. As a result, most people go around in the world believing that they don't regularly experience hearing God's Voice because they don't hear a big booming voice in the sky speaking to them in words.

You can see from this one example how the subtle, often subconscious beliefs and assumptions we might have about God impact the many, if not infinite, possibilities we

might have for hearing God's Voice in our lives. Our beliefs filter or block countless other possibilities, giving us a very narrow set of options through which to receive divine guidance and communication.

Here's another example: What about all the people who believe that they are unworthy of receiving a personal message from God? Their belief in their unworthiness is a reflection of their belief about God. Because they judge themselves as being unworthy, they naturally assume that God is judging them as well. Everything we think and believe about ourselves, we innocently project onto God, believing that God feels the same way about us as we do.

The beliefs that we are separate from God and that God judges us are just two simple examples. I could come up with an entire book of beliefs that limit or impact our experience of hearing God's Voice in the world.

The truth is, God is within and part of all of creation. Nothing exists outside or separate from God, for God is the Source and container in which all creation exists. Every thought, belief, emotion, object, body, and thing that we can name, label, or identify arises from this same Source and exists within It—not separate from It—but as an extension of It.

Because the Essence, Spirit, and Beingness that God *is* exists within all things and *as* all things, everything in the world can serve as a communication from God or as an opportunity to hear God's Voice, IF we have the ears to hear. The more unlimited one's understanding and beliefs about God, the more possibilities one has to receive God's understanding, wisdom, and guidance in his or her life.

One of the reasons I put *When God Spoke to Me* together was to show people that God speaks to all of us, in countless different ways, and that we all have this intimate connection with God, regardless of our backgrounds or our faith. Within the seventy jaw-dropping stories in the book, there are personal accounts from Christians, New Thought and New Age believers, Buddhists, Muslims, *A Course in Miracles* students, people of no particular faith or spiritual tradition, and even atheists (or at least they used to be). Not only are the stories incredibly captivating and inspiring, but together they reveal thirty-three unique ways of experiencing this still small voice within, forty-four different qualities of heart and mind that are critical for hearing God's Voice, forty-eight different benefits to hearing this voice, and over one hundred insights for how to hear God's Voice more fully and consistently in your own life.

By witnessing so many descriptive, first-person accounts of hearing God's Voice from people of all walks of life, it's my hope that more and more people will open up to hearing God's Voice in new and different ways, as well as recognize all the ways they already hear God's Voice without realizing it.

By aligning our beliefs ever more closely with God's unlimited capability and inseparable Presence, we all have the ability to open our hearts and minds to experiencing God's divine guidance and communication, in all areas of our lives, and in every moment of our day. We are truly part of God, and God part of us. We cannot be separate from our Creator, nor He/She from us.

Know in your heart that it is God's Will for you to hear His Voice. The Voice of Spirit was given to you by God to restore your awareness to Him, to bring you comfort and peace in times of despair, love and reassurance when you are afraid, and guidance and wisdom when you feel confused and uncertain. This Voice for God is part of you. You are worthy of hearing His Voice. You are capable of hearing His Voice. And you will hear His Voice. All that is required is the desire and willingness to do so. If the desire and willingness are there, the outcome is assured.