



5. Be obedient

Jesus said, 'If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching.' John 14:23

- It is God who gives you faith in his Son and who lives in you by the Holy Spirit: you belong to him!
- So listen to God by obeying what he says in the Bible: live a life of obedience that gives him pleasure.
- Study and memorise the Bible; listen to it preached. God will use it to speak to you, directing your paths, challenging you and changing you.



James 1:22 | Ephesians 2:8,9 | Leviticus 18:5
John 14:21, 23 | Galatians 2:19-20
Psalm 119:33-35



6. Be persistent

Be persistent in prayer, and keep alert as you pray, giving thanks to God. Colossians 4:2

- Keep praying for what God puts in your heart and mind.
- Is there a prayer God hasn't answered? Why not listen to see if God speaks to you about why that might be?
- Keep praying until the Holy Spirit prompts you to move on.



Colossians 4:2 | Philippians 4:6 | Jeremiah 33:3
Luke 18:1-8 | Matthew 26:41



7. Be thankful

The sacrifice that honours me is a thankful heart. Psalm 50:23 (CEV)

- Prayer and giving thanks go together.
- Picture prayer like breathing in God, praise like breathing out to God.
- Praise releases power!
- Don't depend on your feelings. Feelings can block you from listening to God.
- Giving thanks and praising is a discipline. Give thanks not because you feel like it, but because God deserves it.



Psalm 50:23 | Psalm 86:10-12
Romans 11:33-36 | Psalm 110:4,5
Psalm 63:2-5 | Jude 25 | Ephesians 5:19
1 Chronicles 16:34

Speak Lord, for your servant is listening.

1 Samuel 3:9



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Practical steps to help you listen to God

I will listen to what God the Lord says: he promises peace to his people, his faithful servants.

Psalm 85:8

ALL PRAYER should be a two-way conversation between you and God. God speaks through his Word—and by his Spirit.

You can listen to God ANYWHERE, at ANY TIME, but it helps to have...



... a quiet place

Think: where could I go?



... a quiet time

Think: when is best for me?



... a quiet heart

Think: am I ready to listen?

Here are 7 practical steps to help you listen to God...



1. Be still

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

- Open the Bible and get ready to listen.
- Reflect on God's goodness, his power, his love, what he is like, what he has done.
- Read a psalm of praise or a favourite Bible passage. Reflect on it.
- Worship and praise God: use your own words, or listen to a worship song.
- Focus on God, not your own needs.



James 4:8a | Psalm 62:5,11-12 | Hebrews 4:16
Psalm 47:6-8 | Colossians 1:15-23
1 Chronicles 29:10-13 | Psalm 19:14
Psalm 46:10-11



2. Be clean

Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts... James 4:8b

- Take time to let the Holy Spirit search your heart. Respond to his prompting.
- What do you need to say sorry for? Ask him to forgive you and make you clean inside.
- Accept his forgiveness. Thank him.
- Ask him to fill you with the Holy Spirit.



James 4:8b | Psalm 66:18-20 | Psalm 24:3-5 |
Psalm 51:16-17 | 1 John 1:9 | James 5:16b |
Ephesians 5:18b | Luke 11:13



3. Be armed

Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Ephesians 6:10

Stand up to the devil. He will run away from you. James 4:7

- The all-powerful name of Jesus and the Bible, the Sword of the Spirit, are your armour. They are mighty weapons.
- Picture yourself putting on “the whole armour of God” and “putting on Christ”.



James 4:7 | 1 Peter 5:8,9 | Luke 10:19
Colossians 2:15 | Colossians 3:16,17
2 Corinthians 10:4-6 | Ephesians 6:10-18

Remember! God and Satan are not equal enemies. God is more powerful—Jesus rising from the dead proves this. He is the all-powerful King of Kings and Lord of Lords—you have nothing to fear when you come into God's presence when you come in the name of Jesus.



4. Be submissive

Do not be wise in your own eyes. Proverbs 3:7

- Put aside your own ideas, lists, desires.
- Ask God what *he* wants you to pray for.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to direct your prayers and pray through you.
- Praise God for his willingness to answer.



John 4:7a | Proverbs 3:5,6 | Romans 8:26,27
Isaiah 55:8-11 | Ezra 8:23 | John 14:26
John 15:7