

## Devotional Exercise for this week

Meditate on Israel's story this week in 1 Samuel 3. Read it several times each day. Put yourself in the scene. Imagine the scene – feel it, see it, sense it. Ask God for insights each day as you read the text and meditate on it.

Each day seek God for more of Himself. Ask Him to reveal Himself to you. Surrender to Him. Come expectant, but surrendered – willing to allow God to determine how and when an encounter with Him occurs. Seek more of His presence and power. Listen for the whispers of the Spirit. Remember most days our encounters with God are small still whispers. Quiet your soul, and listen for God to speak. Worship, confession, and surrender help. Jot down what you receive, test it later with Scripture (everything is tested by Scripture, if it is contrary to Scripture, it isn't from God) and with discerning believers (1 Thessalonians 5:19-21) God speaks through: (1) Our thoughts. Jot down what comes to mind as you listen, test it later. (2) Pictures – Acts 2 says in the last days God will speak thru dreams and visions, those are pictures from God. (3) An audible voice – sometimes people hear the audible voice of God. (4) Emotions – God can speak to us through our emotions, e.g., we may feel compassion for someone, and God may be calling us to pray for them, jot them a note, etc. (5) We may see a word in our mind's eye.

Here are some other spiritual exercises to help you encounter God this week:

- \* Soak in prayer. Soak in worship. Dedicate your life wholeheartedly to God. Surrender all you have, and all you are to Him.
- \* Listen for the whispers of the Spirit. Don't analyze. Jot down what you hear. Stay in faith. Test what you receive with others who are on the journey to hear God's voice. Get some coaching help in discerning the Lord's voice.
- \* Ask God where He wants you to serve Him. How he wants you to minister before him. Follow the promptings of the Spirit, and seek to encounter God in the service opportunities.
- \* Listen to the Spirit, and do whatever God tells you to do. Make a call. Write a note. Invite a friend. Tell someone about Jesus. Pray with someone, etc. The more we hear and obey, the more we receive.

Focus on Jesus. You cannot generate spiritual activity in your life. You cannot produce an encounter with God. Take the pressure off of yourself, and just focus on Jesus. It's not about you, it's about Jesus. Meditate on Him. Focus on Him. Rest in Him.

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