

The Task of Discernment
Series: Hearing God's Voice
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I. Introduction

II. Is God speaking? Five questions to help you discern:

1. Is it consistent with the main and plain of Scripture?

- The Bereans *“received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true. As a result, many of them believed...”* (Acts 17:11-12).

2. Is it compatible with the character of the Lord Jesus?

- Jesus said, *“Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father...The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work”* (John 14:9-10).

3. Does it line up with your ongoing relationship with God?

- *“How precious toward me are your thoughts, God! How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand...”* (Psalm 139:14, 17-18).
- *“God seeks a dynamic, growing relationship with his people, so he speaks progressively to individuals. He guides people step-by-step, day-by-day, each new word building upon what he said previously”* (Henry Blackaby).

4. Is it confirmed by godly people around you?

- A Jew named Apollos *“taught about Jesus accurately, though he knew only the baptism of John... When Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they invited him to their home and explained to him the way of God more adequately”* (Acts 18:25-26).

5. Do you have a deep sense of peace from the Lord?

- “The mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace” (Romans 8:6).
- “I don’t move forward without the peace of God and a song! Never go anywhere without peace and a song!” (Henry Gruver).

III. Concluding thoughts and prayer