



NSD

NEWSLETTER

Sunday, August 3, 2008

BIBLE STUDY..... 10 a.m.
"Gospel of Luke"

MORNING WORSHIP..... 11 a.m.
Speaker: Dan Austin

EVENING SERVICE.... 6 p.m.
Speaker: Dan Austin

WEDNESDAY MEETING..... 7 p.m.
"The Parables of Jesus"

News & Notes

Welcome Visitors. If you are a visitor in our congregation today we welcome you and invite you to stay for a while after service.

Please continue to pray for our deployed military members and their families: **Sam Barton, Logan Harper, Matt Wells** and **Earnest Peoples**.

Robyn and **Paulette Hamilton** are in the bay area and will return on Thursday. **Dema Franklin** spent the past week in El Centro taking care of her elderly mother. Please pray for the safe return of all who are travelling.

Ladies, please mark your calendar for August 12th, the date for the next **Women's Bible Study** meeting. The meeting will be held at **Dema Franklin's** home.

August Birthday: Dan Austin (6th)

When God Tarries

1 Samuel 13:5-15

Saul was vastly outmanned and outarmed, surrounded by vengeful Philistines. He waited for Samuel to come and make the offering that would secure the Lord's favor. But Samuel tarried. We don't know why; we just know that the longer he delayed, the more desperate Saul became. The moment Samuel was officially late, Saul acted. He made the offering himself. He wasn't a priest and had no authority; but someone had to do it. Israel was at stake.

Have you ever prayed desperately for God's help, only to see the deadline pass with no reply? God frequently test us this way. Providence is slow in coming and we take matters into our own hands. We don't mean to be disobedient; we just assume God hasn't answered our prayers and wants us to help ourselves. He doesn't. He's waiting to see what's more important to us: our obedience or our survival.

Would God really give us that difficult a test? Just ask Abraham, Esther, or Peter. And remember Saul. Our obedience will be tested, usually in smaller degrees. But it always comes down to this: When things are really desperate, when our whole lives seem to depend on the next step, what will we do? Take it upon ourselves to intervene or continue to trust God?

From "Walk with God", copyright 2004 by Walk Thru the Bible

NORTH SAN DIEGO CHURCH OF CHRIST

7090 Miramar Road 102, San Diego, California 92121

P.O. Box 721513, San Diego, CA 92172-1513

858.578.0734

ELDERS: Dan Austin, Roben Hamilton **DEACON:** Matt Wells **MINISTER:** Dan Austin

<http://nsdca.com>

where the Bible is the source of faith, where Jesus is Lord, where Christianity is a way of life!



Recognizing God's Voice

My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

John 10:27

My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

Luke 18:1

Then He spoke a parable to them that men always ought to pray and not lose heart...

Proverbs 8:34

Blessed is the man who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors.

1 Samuel 3:10

Now the LORD came and stood and called as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel answered, "Speak, for Your servant hears."

1 John 5:14-15

Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

Did you ever notice how much Jesus prayed when He was here on earth? He prayed a lot. He also taught his disciples how to pray and He taught us through parables that we must pray consistently (**Luke 18:1-8**.) Most of us don't have a problem with praying. But for many of us, it is sometimes difficult to know when the answers we get are from God. We want to make our decisions based on HIS will; but we know that the tempter is out there trying to confuse us with answers that may seem more reasonable. How do we know which answer is God's? The key is in recognizing God's voice.

Do you ever wonder how babies can recognize their mother's voice? Mothers spend a lot of time with their babies. This mother-child bond is formed in the early months when a mother is with her child every hour of every day and this bond allows the child to recognize the mother's voice. In the same way, in order to recognize God's voice, we need to build a similar bond with Him. We need to spend time with God and His Word every day (**Proverbs 8:34**) so that when He speaks we can recognize His voice.

There is one practical question that we can ask to help us distinguish God's voice and determine whether the answer to our prayer is indeed from God: **Is the answer consistent with scripture and with God's Will?** Clearly, if the answer to your prayer requires that you take some action that is contrary to what the Bible teaches then that answer cannot be from God no matter how reasonable or logical it seems. You can never go wrong if you do what you know to be God's will. Act when God's will is clearly indicated in the action to be taken otherwise wait. If you are not sure, keep listening and trust that He will show you the right way to go if you keep attentive to his will. Remember young Samuel, God did not stop calling Samuel until at last Samuel answered, "Speak Lord for your servant hears." (**1 Samuel 3:10**)

One thing that we can be sure of is that God listens to our prayers and that he answers our prayers (**1 John 5:14-15**). Do not falter in your belief and in your relationship with God and you can be confident that you will recognize his voice when he speaks to you.