

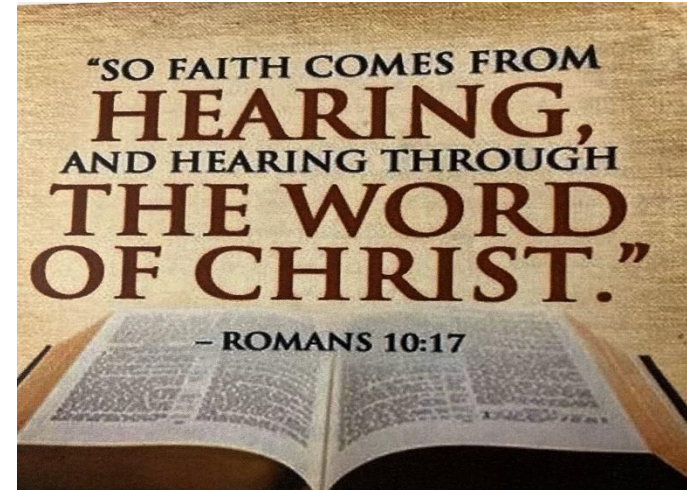
The Devotion of Hearing
1 Samuel 3:10
by Oswald Chambers



**BETHEL UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

Just because I have listened carefully and intently to one thing from God does not mean that I will listen to everything He says. I show God my lack of love and respect for Him by the insensitivity of my heart and mind toward what He says. If I love my friend, I will instinctively understand what he wants. And Jesus said, “You are My friends...” (John 15:14). Have I disobeyed some command of my Lord’s this week? If I had realized that it was a command of Jesus, I would not have deliberately disobeyed it. But most of us show incredible disrespect to God because we don’t even hear Him. He might as well never have spoken to us.

The goal of my spiritual life is such close identification with Jesus Christ that I will always hear God and know that God always hears me (see John 11:41). If I am united with Jesus Christ, I hear God all the time through the devotion of hearing. A flower, a tree, or a servant of God may convey God’s message to me. What hinders me from hearing is my attention to other things. It is not that I don’t want to hear God, but I am not devoted in the right areas of my life. I am devoted to things and even to service and my own convictions. God may say whatever He wants, but I just don’t hear Him. The attitude of a child of God should always be, “Speak, for Your servant hears.” If I have not developed and nurtured this devotion of hearing, I can only hear God’s voice at certain times. At other times I become deaf to Him because my attention is to other things— things which I think I must do. This is not living the life of a child of God. Have you heard God’s voice today?



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WORSHIP SERVICE

September 8, 2024

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

PRELUDE

“Speak, O Lord”

Words and music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townsend, arr. Lloyd Larson

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

INTROIT “Open the Eyes of My Heart with Holy, Holy, Holy”
by Paul Baloche, arr. by Don Wyrzten

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

“How Great is Our God”

Songwriter: Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves

INVOCATION

*HYMNS OF PRAISE

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

Songwriter: Edward Perronet

“The Heart of Worship”

Songwriter: Matthew James Redman

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 28:10-22

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

GIVING OF GOD’S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

“Greater”

Songwriters: Donald L. Lawrence, Kevon Carter, Loren K. A. McGee

“Lead On Good Shepherd”

Songwriters: Frankie Orella, Patrick Mayberry, Paul Duncan

*DOXOLOGY

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow #94

SERMON TEXT

1 Corinthians 2:6-16

SERMON

“OUR SPIRITUAL EAR”

Rev. Ott

*HYMN OF INVITATION

“Everlasting God”

by Benton Brown and Ken Riley

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

“Great Is the Lord”

By Michael W. Smith and Deborah D. Smith, arr. Jerry Ray

*If Able, Please Stand

OUR PRAYERS: Scott Bell, R. Lee Benton, Jamey Bryan, Jenny Bunton, Stacy Carter, R.L. Carter, Jr., Abbey Corbett Keeney, Lee Dean Cox, Troyce Crosby, Dorothy Cummings, Sean Fanchette, Joseph Givens, Joyce Hennen, Michael Hickman, Bryon Hollenbeck, Bill Howell, Lad Howell, Tony Hubbard, Linda Hudson, Shawn Jacques, Bobbie McLaine, Ann Nettles, Lynn Nettles, Ed Newington, Susann Padgett, Christopher Plummer, Carolyn Powers, Joe Ritter, Joey Ritter, Debra Smith, Donna Sumner, Bonnie Thomas, Cindy Thompson, Eddie Thompson, Debra Twigg, Taylor Twigg, Chris Varnadoe, Michael Walker, Nell Walters, Sharon Warren.

Nursing Homes/Shut-Ins/Distant Members: Jackie Bennett, Doris Bone, Jane Brown, David Cox, Nina Crosby, Sarah Anne Dean, June Dyches, Lynn Harrison, Joy Lawson, Jeanine Price, Gene Rhodes, Rusty Riddle, Kay Speaks, Norma West, Miriam Westbury.

Military Service: Caleb Blankenship, Elijah and Kaeleigh Forni, Cody Keeney, Matthew Mangum, David Nelson, Edward Phillips, Jordan Ray, Tristan Ray, Blake Rhodes.

Audio/Video Technician

Joy Hoffman/John Thomas

AGAPE GROUP: Elton Culpepper, Herman Hoffman, Celeste Stone, Tom Whitacre, Jenny Bunton, and Mary Wynn Chamblin.

EXPERIENCING GOD - We are beginning an incredible journey towards a stronger faith and a closer walk with Jesus. The emphasis of the study is to know and do the will of God. Please contact the church office if you feel led to join us. We will begin on **Tuesday, September 10th, at 11:00 AM** in the Fellowship Hall. We’re looking for 25 brave Christians to take the journey.

Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development: Will meet on **Tuesday, September 10th at 5:30 PM** in the Library.

SAFE SANCTUARY: In order to secure our facility during worship, beginning in September, we will lock all our doors at 10 AM. The main Hampton Street doors to the sanctuary will be locked at 10:15. There will be an usher at the door if you need to enter after 10:15. Let’s stay safe.