**Lesson 4: Desire To Pray: A Lifestyle of Prayer**

**Matthew 7:7 Ask, and it shall be given; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.**

 **“Asking”: You pray for the more of God. As you pray, ask God to remove ungodly habits, thoughts, and deeds. To fill you with more of His Spirit, inquire his direction and guidance in every area of your life.**

**“Seeking”: When you are after the right way to live for God. Also to seek for knowledge, revelation, wisdom and insight from God.**

**“Knock”: Pursuing God to continue to do His Will. The continued pursuit of God takes you into greater realms and dimensions in God. God then begins to reveal the mysteries of the kingdom. Glory and the anointing is bestowed upon you because of your persistence in knowing God and developing an intimate relationship with Him.**

**The Importance of Hearing God**

**John 10: 4-5 And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.**

1.Identifying strange voices require spirit of discernment.

2. Prayer makes you more sensitive to hearing God more clearly and distinguishing between strange voices and Voice of God through spirit of discernment.

**What Are The Strange Voices?**

**1.Satan: contrary to God’s Word, dark imaginations, evil thoughts, demonic words**

**2. Human spirit: our deepest desires, thoughts and wants but not necessarily God’s Will for our lives.**

**3. Flesh: carnal thinking; lustful thoughts; covetous desire; contrary to the Holy Ghost ways and thoughts; unspiritual thinking; worldly thinking; secular humanism; true nature of man without God**

**How Do I Know When God Speaks?**

**1.It is according and based on His Word**

**2.Lines up with God's Will for your life.**

**3.Brings clarity and direction in your life.**

**4. Speaks in the spirit of truth and not error**

**Times To Pray: Scheduling Times To Pray**

**Exercise 1: What time do you pray? What is your length of prayer at this time?**

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**Exercise 2: Do you have a particular location to pray? A place where you and God meet on a continual and daily basis?**

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**Exercise 3: Do you pray consistently on a daily basis? Why or Why Not?**

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**Prayers and The Word of God**

**If you're starting out to pray and you don't know what to say. You can always pray The Word of God. Also, having a consistent bible study time helps you develop prayers through the scriptures when you are studying God's word. If there's particular things you want to pray about, you can look up in the index of your bible for topic and since we have the technology, you can look up scriptures and topics on the internet as well. To pray the perfect Will of God is to pray The Word of God. Also, the ability to pray in tongues or spirit, helps one to pray according to the Will of God as well. There are also prayer books that you can study and add to your daily prayers that are based on the God's Word. The more of God's Word you feed your spirit, the more it comes out during your prayer time through the Holy Ghost. In John 14:26, the scriptures reads,"But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you" (KJV).**

**Prayer Journal Homework Exercise: Write down what God tells you during your prayer time.**

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