

LJM Teen Topic: Why Can't I Hear God?

CONTENT REFERENCES

1 Kings 19:11-12

• Then the Lord said: Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord; the Lord will pass by. There was a strong and violent wind rending the mountains and crushing rocks before the Lord—but the Lord was not in the wind; after the wind, an earthquake—but the Lord was not in the earthquake; after the earthquake, fire—but the Lord was not in the fire; after the fire, a light silent sound.

Matthew 5:8

Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.

Psalm 22:2-3

• My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? Why so far from my call for help, from my cries of anguish? My God, I call by day, but you do not answer; by night, but I have no relief.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sin kills our souls. This sacrament of healing and mercy brings our soul back to life so we can hear Him again. "Dead people can't hear, so if my soul is dead because of my sin, no wonder I can't hear Him." - teenager. This sacrament teaches us how to be vulnerable and build an intimate relationship w/ God.

Question #1: Have you ever asked yourself the question: "Why Can't I Hear God?" Do you ever feel like you can't hear Him or that He has never spoken to you, which leads you to doubt His Love for you and even His existence? If God wanted to have a relationship with us, why does it seem like He's made it so difficult? Wouldn't He make it easier to hear Him?

Question #2: How many of you find yourself distracted, busy, and bored all at the same time on a daily basis? How much of an effect on your ability to hear God's voice?

Is it possible that God has been speaking the whole time and we don't even realize it?

Question #3: How much do you think sin affects your ability to hear the voice of God?

The sacrament of reconciliation (confession) is the best way to get rid of some major barriers that block your heart from hearing God speak.

Question #4: When you pray, what type of prayer do you think God prefers? (Do honest, faithful, and authentic prayers require more than words? Why then would God choose to speak to us in ways other than words?)

God loves faithfulness, authenticity, and honesty. He uses everything, both the visible (the physical) and invisible (the spiritual) to speak to us. His ways of communication are so much greater (and better) than ours. We have to be careful not to drown them out with noise.

Cornerstone Statement:

God's language is so much greater than just words. It's Love, sacrifice, beauty, Awe and Wonder, selflessness, and the list goes on. We need to become more attentive to all the ways He is speaking.

Create A Group Commitment Going Forward: (Small Commitments)

Idea: Create a note on your phone and for one week, list all the ways you hear/see God speak.