Date: 07/22/2022

**Message Title**: Rest Hear
**Main Scripture**: James 4:8
**Ancillary Scriptures**: Matthew 12:43-45, Ezekiel 3:3-4, Isaiah 28:23, and John 10:27-28
**Main Point**: 3 steps to draw closer to God and hear him
**Your Goal:** Draw closer to God by reducing distractions and loving on his word, which will open you to hearing and trusting God’s leading (voice, unction, vision/dream).
**Resource**: When Grace Flows - Book by DeLonda Adams

Unlock hearing from God. It all comes down to 3 simple keys. **At the heart of every prophet are these three keys**.

**Proximity determines the volume.**

Our main point today is to **Take These three steps to Draw Closer to God and Hear Him.**

James 4:8: **Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.**

So how can we draw near to God? Here are the three steps:

1. Love His Word
2. Clear the Room
3. Trust His Voice

**Love His Word**

Ezekiel 3:3-4: **And he said to me, “Son of man, feed your belly with this scroll that I give you and fill your stomach with it.” Then I ate it, and it was in my mouth as sweet as honey. And he said to me, “Son of man, go to the house of Israel and speak with my words to them**.

How can I say I want to hear from God if I’m not listening to what he already said. **You are looking for a whisper in the wind and ignoring the 783k words from God in your hand!**

**Why is it important to read the Bible?**

1. Vocabulary: Holy Spirit would bring all things back to your remembrance.
2. When you hear from God, how do you know it’s him? The Bible.
3. Study the Bible to strengthen faith and access the supernatural.

**How can we fall in love with his word? Context, get closer.**

1. There are multiple degrees of separation from the source material. Shrink the gap.
	1. Remember the three laws of bible reading:
		1. It wasn’t written by an American (The worldview is different)
		2. It wasn’t written in English (use a bible dictionary)
		3. Context is King (What’s happening in the chapter, book, era, and place)
2. To engage with the word in context, read a book from beginning to end in one sitting.

**Clear the Room**

* We need to empty our room of filth and demonic distractions. We do this by surrendering time and focusing on God.
* **When something is empty, it can echo better.**

Matthew 12:43-44: **“When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, but finds none. Then it says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came.’ And when it comes, it finds the house empty, swept, and put in order.**

* Echo chamber: When beliefs are amplified and reinforced because you hear the same thing repeatedly from multiple sources.
* Emptying the rooms in our hearts doesn’t just happen once.
* You have to put in you what works, books about the word of God, devotionals, e.g., When Grace Flows!

**Trust His Voice**

Isaiah 28:23: **Give ear and hear my voice; give attention and hear my speech.**

* How do we know it’s God? Easy: Time + Familiarity.

We can draw closer to God and to resting in Him and hearing his voice, receiving his leading, as we are in proximity to Hear his word echo in the chambers of our hearts. To have Holy Spirit bring the word and lessons to life and point out solutions to what we encounter daily.

**Act Today!**

* **Schedule 1 hour a day for Bible Reading and Prayer**
* **Incorporate the Word of God into your Rest**
* **Be a prescriber of the Word.**