

# **Listening to the Holy Ghost**

**Faith Fellowship Church  
Sunday Morning Service  
November 18, 2012**

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**“Praying in the Holy Ghost will increase your anointing. Listening to the Holy Ghost will transform your character.”**

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**Many problems we encounter in life, especially blockages and harassments, are the result of the Lord allowing difficulties to shape our character, because we were not listening.**

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**We end up rebuking the devil and struggling to grow and break through the resistance, instead of searching our heart to see what issue the Lord is putting His finger on.**

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## **The Goal**

**To become a completely different person – “Christ in the Earth”**

***Romans 12:2***

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**“We can do this the easy way, or the hard way.”**

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# 12 Steps to Listening and Obeying

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1. SEARCH
2. REPENT
3. CHECK
4. LISTEN
5. HEAR
6. PRAY
7. THINK
8. DECIDE
9. ACT
10. PERSEVERE
11. FINISH
12. PRAISE

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## Warning

*Once you have been taught these things, you will be accountable before Almighty God for what you have learned.*

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### 1. SEARCH

Prayerfully searching my heart for any issues that are unresolved or that the Spirit is highlighting or convicting me of.

Humble yourself and realize that, no matter how long you've been walking with Him, there is still a long way to go and a lot of growth toward Christlikeness.

*2 Corinthians 13:5*

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### 2. REPENT (and FORGIVE)

**REPENT** (Internal, Actions, Sins, Personal)

- Any area I have conviction about
- Any area I don't have a clear conscience about

**FORGIVE** (External, Attitudes, Relationships, Social)

- Anyone at whom I am offended
- Anyone I would not want to meet on the street
- Anyone I have judged as a fool

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### 3. CHECK

Keep checking my heart until I have a clear conscience.

*Mark 11:25*

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#### 4. LISTEN

- Be intentional
- Be prepared
- The minimum:
  - *A quiet place*
  - *No distractions*
  - *Your Bible*
  - *A notebook*
  - *A pen*

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#### 5. HEAR HIM (via The Word)

- The main way the Spirit speaks to you is via the Word of God (*Romans 10:17*).
- You are not “listening for voices.”
- Since He wrote the Word, His voice will sound like the Word.
- Pray in faith, “Lord, I need to hear from You. I approach Your Word by faith.”
- You don’t even know what to pray for or what to ask for until you have read the Word, with a desire to hear.

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#### 6. PRAY

- So many times, we pray without a foundation in Scripture.
- You cannot have faith that will stand up to the tests of resistance without a promise or word from God, a *rhema*.
- Pray to get the Word, then pray based on the Word you get.
- He is ready, willing, and able to equip you to obey.
  - *Mark 11:22-24*

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#### 7. THINK

- You have the mind of Christ, for a purpose.
  - *I Corinthians 2:16*
- Use your mind to think, analyze, process, and meditate on what you are hearing, on what He is saying to you.
- Don’t start with this though. Don’t reverse the process.

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#### 8. DECIDE

- Decide in a quality way that you are hearing a specific direction from the Lord and whether it is substantial enough to sustain you during tough times.
- Vague impressions are not going to cut it.
- If what you are hearing requires action, make a decision to follow through on what He is saying.
- Reach a godly, Spirit-led conclusion on what to do ----- and WHEN!

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#### 9. ACT

- Do what He says, even if it is awkward, inconvenient, painful, or embarrassing to your flesh.
- Act on your faith. Step out. Trust God.
- 3 attributes of Biblical obedience
  - *Instant*
  - *Joyful*
  - *Complete*
- Must be all 3 to qualify

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## 10. PERSEVERE

- If you encounter resistance, exercise:
  - *Patience*
  - *Long-Suffering*
  - *Determination*
  - *Courage*
  - *Hard Work*
  - *Other Character-Building Qualities*
- The Fruit of the Spirit maturing in you
  - *Galatians 5:22-23*

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## 11. FINISH

- It's not enough to start well – you must finish well.
- “He who endures to the end shall be saved.” (*Matt. 10:22, Matt. 24:14, Mark 13:13*)
- Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. (*1 Corinthians 9:24*)
- *Philippians 3:14*

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## 12. PRAISE

- When you get the breakthrough or accomplish the goal, do not take credit for yourself.
- Be humble and thankful.
- “Thanksgiving” could be interpreted as “so grateful that you give an offering to your favorite ministry.”

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