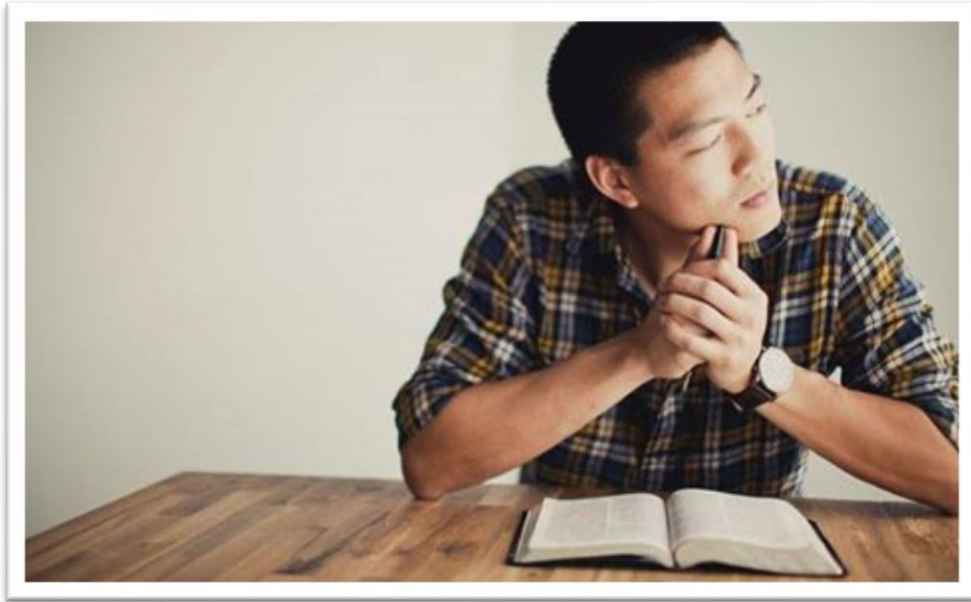


RECOGNIZING THE VOICE OF GOD



There is a big difference between "hearing voices" and having God speak. People can hear any old kind of crazy voice in their heads. However, when God speaks, it is an inner voice within the human spirit, not the head.

It is steady, calm, and with authority. God's voice does not plead, or beg, or whine, or condemn. God simply speaks. His voice is self-authenticating and carries with it the inclination to obey. The "content" of God's voice is always consistent with Scripture.

From the beginning of the Bible to the end, we see a picture of a God who speaks -- preeminently through Jesus Christ. Which is one reason why in the Gospel of John, Jesus is called the "Word of God." For centuries, the great saints of the Church have also claimed to interact with the voice of God.

Granted, there have been and are disturbed people who obey the "voices" in the head, sometimes claiming it was God or the Devil or whoever.

But the counterfeit does not nullify the genuine!