MAINTAINING THE VOICE OF GOD

How to Use This Guide

This self-study guide is a companion document to the video course "Maintaining the Voice of God" This guide will help you learn how to hear from God on a daily basis and not just have a one-time experience.

Each Glory to Glory Study guide is organized around five areas of learning:

- 1. **Synopsis of Key Learning -** The synopsis will provide summaries of key points from the video that are important for you to understand and serve as foundational knowledge for the next course in the learning series.
- 2. **Important Vocabulary and Concepts** This study guide will provide explanation of important words or ideas that are critical to understanding biblical truth.
- 3. **Deeper Learning** The more you know and understand about who God is and how He works, the deeper in love you fall. God wants to have a deep and abiding relationship with you. He desires for you to know Him. This section of guide will give you additional insights into the teaching from the video for you to study on your own. If you have questions, there will be mentoring moments in the online school for you to get your guestions answered.
- 4. **Life Application** God calls for us to not just be a hearer of His word, but a doer also. (James 1:22). This means that God expects for us to apply what we learn about Him in our everyday lives. This section of the study is to help you think about the ways to apply what you learn from the course to your everyday life.
- 5. **Memory Scriptures** Scriptures that support key concepts in the course will be highlighted. We encourage you to memorize these scriptures by meditating on them until they are hidden in your heart. When you hide God's word in your heart, it makes it hard for the enemy to deceive you. In this way, you are less likely to sin against God. (Psalm 119:11)

Introduction to Course Thirteen

God wants us to hear from Him on a daily basis. He doesn't want us to hear from Him only once or once every few years. The key to having this consistency in hearing His voice is that you need to work on your relationship with God. Focusing on your vertical relationship



which is the one between you and God has to come before every other relationship which are all horizontal relationships. Your relationship with God is more than you going to church on a Sunday or Saturday, it needs to be built by spending time with God and getting to know God.

Maintaining the Voice of God **Synopsis** We tend to have a much better relationship with the people we spend the most time with. Actually, it is often said, if you've been married for many years, that you start looking like your spouse after while. Do you look like Jesus? This is the goal and will only happen when you spend a lot of time getting to know Him. Our definition of knowing God and the bible's definition is very different. When we find out what it means to actually know God it shines a light on whether we truly know Him or not. It also shows us that there are a lot less people who are true Christians than we initially thought. Ginóskó – to know in Greek, Strong's Concordance 1097 Key Vocabulary/ Definition of To know Concepts to know, especially through personal experience (first-hand acquaintance). 1097 /ginóskō ("experientially know") It is first-hand acquaintance and to experientially know something or someone. This is the same word used in Luke 1:34, when Mary was surprised to know she would have a baby when she did not "know" a man. So, knowing God has to do with intimacy. Becoming intimately acquainted with Him.



Deeper Learning

Your relationship with God starts with your salvation, then you should progress into reading the bible, then you should move into prayer and you should also be spending time with Him.

Being still in His Presence and allowing yourself time alone with Him.

If I were to ask you if you know Prince Charles you would probably say "Yes, he is next in line to the British throne". If I were to ask you if you had a first-hand relationship with him, do you have experiential knowledge of him, then you may say - NO. This means you *know of* him, you don't actually know him. Most people know of him but how many can say they know him? Regardless of what you read in the newspaper unless you have regular contact with him, you don't know him.

If we don't carefully guard our time with the Lord, being a Christian can be reduced to going to church, being actively involved in church but there is no real relationship or getting know God. No first-hand experience, no experiential knowledge, no intimacy with the Lord. Do you know what can happen when you don't spend time establishing this kind of relationship?

Matthew 7:21-23 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' And then will I declare to them, 'I never **knew** you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'

We see from this scripture that you can be in church prophesying, casting out demons and doing all external acts and still not know God. He said, "I never **knew** you". That word is *ginóskō* – *to know*. Therefore, God is saying only the ones who truly *know Him*, will have access to heaven.

As a new Christian, you should be focused on building your relationship with Christ first and then from a well-established relationship you will know how He wants you to serve others. Finding out your purpose, spiritual gifts and the type of ministry you should be involved in will become very clear when you focus on knowing God first.

This is the reason your time with God, developing your relationship with Him is more important than all of the acts and services you could ever perform for Him in church or ministry. Get to know Him.



Life Application	If you have a cellphone or mobile device it will tells you how many hours per week you spend on the screen. Start recording how much time you are spending in prayer, reading the bible and in silence waiting on the Lord. This is not the same as doing ministry work. Ministry work has to do with horizontal relationships with others. To truly know God you have to be completely focused on the vertical, which is only between you and Him. When you become aware of how much time you spend with Him, you will know if it is enough or if you need to do more. You may need cut back on some things to spend more time with Him. Many times life can get in the way, perhaps you used to spend time with God but you don't anymore. Our situations, living arrangements and schedule can change and at that time it may call for you to restructure things to make time for the Lord. It is the most important thing you will do and it will help you avoid mistakes and bring clarity in decision making.
Memory Scriptures	Psalm 46:10 "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!" Psalm 40:8 "And I delight to do your will, my God, for your law is written upon my heart!"
Praver	

Prayer

Abba Father,

Help me to know You better. Show me how and when I can make time to spend with You. Write Your will upon my heart and bring me into a full knowledge of You, Your desires, and the purpose You have for my life. As I commit to spending time with You, help me to understand what it is You have planned for me. Reveal to me what You have written in the scrolls about me. Grant me security in my steps as I journey towards You, in Jesus name, Amen