



God's Voice

By Shannon Ford on October 11, 2021

TODAY'S READING: John 20

One of the most compelling illustrations of knowing Christ's voice is found in John's gospel account of the resurrection. In John 20, John recounts Mary Magdalene's encounter with her Lord after Jesus was raised from the dead. Mary Magdalene loved Christ with all her heart. Mary Magdalene, out of whom Jesus had cast seven demons, was the last one at the cross and the first one at the grave. Throughout the Scripture she is present in His life and clearly had a deep, abiding faith in Him. When she went to the tomb and found it empty, she was deeply distressed, thinking someone had moved His body. When Jesus first approaches her, she thinks He is the gardener, until He says her name. One word, "Mary," and she knows it is her Lord. She falls at His feet to cling to Him and worship Him.

What a beautiful picture of sheep and Shepherd. When Christ spoke her name, Mary recognized His voice. She knew Him personally. One of the distinguishing characteristics of a true Christ follower is the recognition of God's voice. It comes through conviction of sin, through scripture, and through a still, small voice in your heart and mind. It is impossible to fully explain it to someone else because, as a believer, we just know when God is speaking. And the longer we walk with God, the more recognizable His voice becomes.

Have you heard God speak to you lately? If you are a Christian, you should know His voice. And as Christians, we must be careful not to allow the world to drown Him out. He has so much to say – and we need to hear from Him, our Good Shepherd.

PRAYER: Father, I am so grateful that You speak to me through Your Spirit who lives inside me and Your Word. Please continue to teach me how to hear You. If there are any ways that my lifestyle is drowning out Your voice, please show me and help me change. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

TOMORROW'S READING: John 21

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