

Hearing the Voice of God



Study Guide

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Hearing the Voice of God

*The Fire on the Mountain Podcast series to help you hear
and speak the voice of God in your daily life*

Come, Holy Spirit!

Hello, dear friends! My name is Fr. David Dodd, and I want to personally welcome you to the **Hearing God's Voice study guide**, the perfect companion to complement my podcast series to help you better hear the voice of our Father in your life.

Whether you've been listening to my podcast **Fire on the Mountain** from the beginning or are just joining after hearing content on the Tabella App, I'm excited to journey with you as we deepen our understanding of how God speaks to us.

My prayer is that this guide helps you not only hear God's voice more clearly but also speak His voice in your daily life.

May the Holy Spirit open your hearts and minds as you dive into this study. May He lead you to a greater awareness of God's presence and a deeper trust in His loving guidance. God bless you on this journey!

Fr. David Dodd, TOR

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LISTEN TO THE FIRE ON
THE MOUNTAIN PODCAST



Study Guide Breakdown

Episode 1: The Still Small Voice

- Discover how God speaks to us in subtle, quiet ways, and learn to tune in to His voice amidst the noise of daily life.

Episode 2: Beyond the Rules: Embracing Our Identity as God's Children

- Explore how our identity as God's children enables us to hear His voice and how this relationship transcends techniques and rules.

Episode 3: Easter Egg Hunt: Discovering God's Hidden Messages

- Learn how God sometimes communicates in subtle, hidden ways, requiring humility, openness, and a childlike spirit to uncover His messages.

Episode 4: Recognizing God's Voice Through the Senses

- Reflect on how God communicates with us through our senses—touch, sight, sound—and how the Incarnation and sacraments reveal His voice.

Episode 5: Encounter or Counterfeit?

- Understand the importance of discerning God's voice from other influences and learn practical ways to test spiritual experiences.

Episode 6: The Power of Scripture: Tolle et Lege

- Delve into the transformative power of Scripture and how reading God's Word reshapes our minds and helps us better hear His voice.

Episode 7: Speaking with Authority

- Transition from hearing God's voice to speaking His Word with authority, embracing our role as baptized Christians to declare truth and transform situations.

Episode 8: Prophecy: Speaking God's Heart

- Gain insight into the gift of prophecy, understanding how it allows us to communicate God's heart to others and build up the body of Christ.

Episode 9: Prophecy in Action

- Explore how to practically live out prophecy, applying it to daily life while trusting in God's ability to work through us for His glory.

Episode 10: Our Call to Glory

- Reflect on our identity and destiny as children of God, called to live in the glory of Christ, with the Holy Spirit transforming us from glory to glory.



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The Still Small Voice

Introduction: In the first episode, Fr. David explores the idea that God often speaks to us in subtle, quiet ways rather than in loud, dramatic ways. He encourages us to learn how to tune into God's voice, recognizing that God desires to communicate with us as His children.

Key Themes:

1. God's Desire to Speak to Us

- Scripture: "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me" (John 10:27).
- Reflection: Often times we perceive God as absent, aloof or indifferent to us, but in reality God is always speaking to us and has a great desire to engage in a loving relationship with us.

2. God Speaks in a Still, Small Voice

- Scripture: "after the earthquake, fire—but the LORD was not in the fire; after the fire, a light silent sound." (1 Kings 19:11-13)
- Reflection: We expect God to speak in a loud booming voice like we see in movies, however, scriptures tells us that God speaks more often than not in stillness and silence.

3. God's Voice Sounds Familiar

- Quote: "God's voice sounds like our own because He dwells within us."
- Reflection: As we listen for the voice of God, we often imagine He will sound like Darth Vader. In reality, God's voice will resound through our own voice, as it is His very presence that is in each of us through His Spirit. (see 1 Samuel chapter 3)



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THE STILL SMALL VOICE

Discussion Questions:

1. When have you experienced God's voice in your life? Was it subtle or more direct?

2. How does the story of Elijah help you understand how to listen for God in the silence?

Action Step: This week, dedicate 10 minutes each day to quiet prayer. As you sit in silence, repeat the prayer of Samuel, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." Be attentive to the various ways the Lord is speaking to you personally.



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EPISODE 2

Beyond the Rules: Embracing Our Identity as God's Children

Introduction: Fr. David focuses on the nature of our relationship with God. He explains that hearing God's voice is not about following a technique, but about the relationship we have with Him as His children. Our ability to hear God comes from our identity in Christ, not from performance.

Key Themes:

1. Hearing God As His Children

- Quote: "Our ability to hear from God is based more on God's ability to speak than on our ability to listen."
- Reflection: God is a good Father who desire to provide, protect, and care for His children. As you enter into this journey of coming to hear God's voice with more clarity, remember that God is a Dad who desires a close relationship with His children.

2. Moving from Servant to Friend Mentality

- Quote: "You are no longer servants, but friends" (John 15:15).
- Reflection: False ideas about the identity of God create many barriers when it comes to hearing His voice. Before we can hear Him, we must assess if we truly know Him.

3. Overcoming Fear of Failure

- Quote: "Making mistakes is not an obstacle to holiness, but the pathway to holiness."
- Reflection: If we could shift our mindset from one of self-reliance and performance to one of relationship and dependence, we would hear God with much more clarity.



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EPISODE 3

Easter Egg Hunt: Discovering God's Hidden Messages

Introduction: Fr. David uses the metaphor of an Easter egg hunt to describe how God speaks to us. God sometimes speaks in parables or subtle ways that require us to seek Him out and ask questions. This episode explores the importance of humility and childlike openness in hearing God's voice.

Key Themes:

1. God's Invitations Are Subtle

- Quote: "The parables are like Easter eggs—God hides them for us to find."
- Scripture: "It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, and the glory of kings to search it out" (Proverbs 25:2)
- Reflection: God doesn't want us to be "in the dark" or in a state of confusion when it comes to hearing His voice. God's ways of communicating are meant to draw out the deepest parts of our heart so we can find deeper communion with Him.

2. Ask Questions

- Quote: "Those who ask God questions receive more revelation."
- Reflection: God wants us to feel safe and comfortable with bringing Him our questions and concerns. He is eager to bring truth and clarity to us.

3. Openness to Change

- Quote: "Only if we are open to conversion can we hear God's voice."
- Scripture: Matthew 13:13-17
- Reflection: Old ways do not open new doors, especially as Christ is seeking to make all things new. We must be flexible and open to form our will and desires to be like those of God.



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EASTER EGG HUNT: DISCOVERING GOD'S HIDDEN MESSAGES

Discussion Questions:

1. How do you respond when God speaks to you in ways that require deeper searching or discernment?

2. What steps can you take to cultivate more openness and humility in your prayer life?

Action Step: Each day this week, ask God, “What are you trying to say to me?” Write down any thoughts, feelings, or images that come up and reflect on how God may be speaking to you through them.



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EPISODE 4

Recognizing God's Voice Through the Senses

Introduction: In this episode, Fr. David explores how God communicates with us using our senses—sight, sound, touch, and more. By reflecting on the significance of the Incarnation and the sacraments, he explains that God became man, which means God speaks through our human faculties. He encourages us to tune in to how God might be speaking to us daily, whether through scripture, creation, or our own thoughts and emotions.

Key Themes:

1. The Incarnation and Divine Communication

- Quote: "God now has a human voice. Jesus is the Word made flesh."
- Reflection: Jesus became man so that He could establish a human connection with us. He continues to use our humanity and things of this world to speak to us of the realities of the world to come.

2. God Speaks Through the Sacraments

- Quote: "In the Sacraments, we touch God, we taste God."
- Reflection: The Sacraments are tangible signs that bridge the gap between the natural and the supernatural. When we participate in the Sacraments, we encounter the real presence of God.

3. God Can Use Our Imagination

- Quote: "God can bring forth profound fruit from our imagination."
- Reflection: Our imagination can be very useful in revealing the desires and movements of our hearts. When we can identify our desires, we can then in turn offer them back to God and discover how God is desiring to manifest our desires to bring us to our fullest potential.



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RECOGNIZING GOD'S VOICE THROUGH THE SENSES

3. Emotions and Feelings

- God gave us emotions as indicators of what is being touched in our interior. He gave us bodies to experience his goodness.
- Scripture: Mark 5:24-34
- Reflection: Resist Dualism. We live in a world that rejects connection between body and spirit. God can reveal his presence through our feelings and emotions.

4. The Still Small Voice

- Quote: "The Lord likes your voice. That's why He came to dwell within you through baptism."
- Reflection: Fr. David explains that sometimes God's voice sounds like our own internal voice. How does this change your perspective on how to listen for God's voice?

5. Creation as a Means of Revelation

- Quote: "God speaks through creation."
- Reflection: Consider moments in your life when you felt God's presence through nature and your surroundings.

Discussion Questions:

1. How does the concept of God speaking through our senses change the way you view everyday experiences?



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EPISODE 4

Recognizing God's Voice Through the Senses

Discussion Questions:

2. In what ways have you experienced God's voice through your imagination, dreams, or thoughts?

3. Fr. David speaks about the importance of discernment. How can you better discern whether what you are hearing or feeling is from God?



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RECOGNIZING GOD'S VOICE THROUGH THE SENSES

Discussion Questions:

4. How can you be more attuned to hearing His voice in the world around you?

5. How can you become more intentional about listening for God's voice in your participation and reception of the Sacraments?

Action Step: This week, practice imaginative prayer by placing yourself in a Gospel scene during your prayer time. Imagine being present with Jesus, hearing His voice, and experiencing the story through your senses. Take note of any insights or revelations you receive during this time.



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Encounter or Counterfeit?

Introduction: In Episode 5, Fr. David teaches about discerning God's voice from other influences. He explains that not all thoughts or spiritual promptings come from God—some originate from our fallen human nature or even from the enemy. By understanding how to "test the spirits," as St. John instructs, we can avoid deception and grow in confidence in hearing God's voice.

Key Themes:

1. Testing the Spirits

- Quote: "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God" (1 John 4:1).
- Reflection: We need to be equipped to test what we hear in prayer against Scripture and the teachings of the Church to ensure that what we are receiving is indeed from God.

2. Counterfeits of God's Voice

- Quote: "If you study the real, then you'll recognize the counterfeit."
- Reflection: Just as bank tellers study real currency to identify forgeries, we must immerse ourselves in Scripture and Church teaching to recognize when a thought or feeling contradicts God's voice.

3. The Tone of God's Voice

- Quote: "God speaks to encourage, upbuild, and console."
- Reflection: God's voice always brings conviction with grace and love, not condemnation. God called us up to be all the He made us to be, He never calls us out to shame us or insult us.



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ENCOUNTER OR COUNTERFEIT?

4. The Voice of the Enemy

- Quote: "The voice of the enemy always draws us towards doubt, despair, and narcissism."
- Reflection: Reflect on the times when doubt or despair overshadowed your faith.

5. Discerning Through the Fruits of the Spirit

- Quote: "Look at the fruit...does it ring with the fruits of the Holy Spirit?"
- Reflection: Thoughts or words from God will produce love, joy, peace, and other fruits of the Spirit.

Discussion Questions:

1. What are some practical ways to "test the spirits" in your prayer life or decision-making?

2. How can you distinguish between conviction from God and condemnation from the enemy?



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EPISODE 5

Recognizing God's Voice Through the Senses

3. Have you ever experienced the enemy's voice in prayer? What helped you recognize the counterfeit?

4. How can you better recognize when God is speaking in a challenging yet consoling way?



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EPIISODE 5: ENCOUNTER OR COUNTERFEIT?

5. How can you discern the fruit of what you hear in prayer?

6. Ponder the fruit of the Holy Spirit you have see in your life lately

Action Step: This week, pay close attention to the thoughts you have during prayer. Write down anything that stands out and test it against Scripture and Church teaching. If you recognize a lie, renounce it in the name of Jesus and replace it with God's truth. For example, if you sense a thought like "I'm not worthy of God's love," renounce it and replace it with, "I am loved more than I can imagine by my Heavenly Father."



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The Power of Scripture: Tolle et Lege

Introduction: This episode focuses on the power of God's Word in transforming our minds and hearts. Fr. David explores how reading Scripture helps us discern God's voice and align ourselves with His will. He draws from St. Augustine's conversion story and the teachings of St. Paul to emphasize the importance of regular engagement with the Bible.

Key Themes:

1. The Power of Scripture

- Quote: "Did you know reading Scripture can set us free from sin?"
- Reflection: Consider how Scripture has influenced your life.

2. Neuroplasticity and Spiritual Renewal

- Quote: "Neurons that fire together, wire together."
- Reflection: We cannot control the circumstances and sufferings we face in life, however, God has built into us the capacity to overcome trauma not just in theory but in our biology. Neuroplasticity refers to the brain's ability to create new neuro pathways, which control our perception of ourselves and the world around us.

3. The Mind of Christ

- Quote: "We have the mind of Christ. Spend enough time with Him, and you begin to think like Him."
- Reflection: Father challenges us to be honest with ourselves about how much time we are spending in the Word of God. Our priorities, the things we make time for, reveal where we draw our identity, values, and strength.

4. St. Augustine's Conversion

- Story: "Tolle et Lege" - Meaning "Take up and read" in Latin.
- Reflection: Augustine's transformation came through an encounter with God through Sacred Scripture. Ponder the presence, or lack thereof, in your relationship with Christ.



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THE POWER OF SCRIPTURE: TOLLE ET LEGE

5. Scripture as a Weapon Against Lies

- Quote: "An encounter with the truth dispels lies."
- Reflection: Ponder your self-perception. Contrast your self-perception with what Sacred Scripture and the Church teaches about the dignity of the human person.

Discussion Questions:

1. What role does Scripture play in your daily life? How has it helped you discern God's voice?

2. Fr. David mentions the importance of not being conformed to this world but being transformed by the renewal of our minds (Romans 12:2). How do you think the world's values can cloud our ability to hear God's voice?



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EPISODE 6

The Power of Scripture: Tolle et Lege

3. St. Augustine recognized that his desires were good but misdirected. What desires in your life do you think are misdirected, and how can you redirect them towards God?

[illegible]

4. How can you create a routine of daily Scripture reading to grow deeper in your relationship with Christ?

[illegible]

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THE POWER OF SCRIPTURE: TOLLE ET LEGE

5. Do you have a favorite verse or story from scripture? What is it and how do you hear God speaking to your heart through it?

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Action Step: This week, spend at least 15 minutes each day reading Scripture. Focus on letting God's Word reshape your thinking and help you hear His voice more clearly **OR** pray with the Gospel reading for the upcoming Sunday Mass for an entire week prior. You can simply read the Gospel or devote time to doing a Lectio Divina style meditation.



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Speaking with Authority

Introduction: In Episode 7 of "Hearing God's Voice," Fr. David shifts the focus from hearing God's voice to speaking His Word with authority. This episode highlights the power given to us as Christians to declare God's truth, transform our surroundings, and impact lives through the authority received in baptism. It calls us to recognize and step into our role as God's prophets, exercising divine authority by proclaiming His Word.

Key Themes:

1. God's Word is Creative and Powerful

- Quote: "When God speaks something, it's done... His word creates reality."
- Reflection: God's Word is not passive; it brings about change. Just as in Genesis, God's Word has the power to transform when spoken with faith.

2. Jesus Speaks with Divine Authority

- Quote: "Jesus speaks with authority, not as the scribes... He speaks from His own substance."
- Reflection: Unlike religious leaders who quoted others, Jesus spoke directly from His divine nature. His words carried an authority that created healing and restoration.

3. The Authority of the Sacraments

- Quote: "When the priest says, 'This is My Body,' it creates reality... it's transformative."
- Reflection: In the Sacraments, words don't just symbolize but actualize spiritual truths, reminding us of the power behind speaking God's Word.

4. We Share in Christ's Authority

- Quote: "Jesus gave us His authority when we were baptized... Kings exercise authority by royal decree, by speech."
- Reflection: As baptized Christians, we share in Jesus' authority, empowered to bring the Kingdom of God into reality by speaking His truth



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SPEAKING WITH AUTHORITY

5. Speaking Truth Changes Reality

- Quote: "Oftentimes the things that we speak become self-fulfilling prophecies... But when we speak truth, truth sets us free." (Fr. David)
- Reflection: Our words have the power to shape our reality. Speaking God's truth breaks the chains of fear, doubt, and negativity.

6. Aligning Our Speech with God's Will

- Quote: "No foul language should come out of your mouth, but only what imparts grace." (Ephesians 4:29)
- Reflection: We are called to use our words for building up others and bringing grace, just as God's words bring life and transformation.

Discussion Questions:

1. How can recognizing the authority of God's Word change how you pray or speak into difficult situations?

2. Have you experienced moments where speaking God's truth shifted your perspective or changed your reality?



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EPISODE 7

Speaking with Authority

3. What areas in your life might need you to declare God's authority and truth, especially when facing fear, doubt, or anxiety?

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Action Step: This week, take a moment each day to speak a truth from God's Word over a specific area of your life. Whether it's declaring peace in times of stress or speaking hope into moments of despair, practice using your God-given authority to bring about transformation. Write down the difference you notice by the end of the week.



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Prophecy: Speaking God's Heart

Introduction: Fr. David delves into the topic of prophecy, explaining its significance and encouraging believers to pursue this gift. Prophecy, defined as speech inspired by the Holy Spirit, is a powerful way for Christians to reveal God's heart to others. Fr. David provides insights from both the Old and New Testaments, showing how prophecy is not only a gift but also a responsibility that stems from our identity as sons and daughters of God.

Key Themes:

1. What is Prophecy?

- Quote: "Prophecy is speech inspired by the Holy Spirit."
- Reflection: Prophecy is not about predicting the future but about communicating God's revelation, heart and wisdom to those around us

2. What is the purpose of prophecy?

- Quote: "Prophecy... brings encouragement, builds up, and consoles."
- Reflection: Prophecy's purpose is to strengthen others, lift them out of fear, and affirm them in the reality of who they are in Christ.

3. We Are Called to Prophecy Through Baptism

- Quote: "In the last days... your sons and daughters shall prophesy."
- Reflection: As baptized sons and daughters of God, we are all invited to step into the gift of prophecy, bringing God's love and truth to the world.

4. Prophecy Reveals Our Identity, Purpose, and Destiny

- Quote: "God speaks through prophecy to unveil our identity, purpose, and our destiny."
- Reflection: Prophecy helps us discover who we truly are in Christ, what we are called to do, and the future God has planned for us.



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PROPHECY: SPEAKING GOD’S HEART

5. Seeing People as God Sees Them

- Quote: “Prophecy is about calling out the gold in others, not the dirt.”
- Reflection: Rather than focusing on people's faults, prophecy helps us recognize their potential and goodness, drawing them closer to God's vision for their lives.

6. Aligning Our Speech with God’s Will

- Quote: “No foul language should come out of your mouth, but only what imparts grace.” (Ephesians 4:29)
- Reflection: We are called to use our words for building up others and bringing grace, just as God’s words bring life and transformation.

Discussion Questions:

1. How does understanding prophecy as inspired speech by the Holy Spirit change your perspective on its role in your life?

2. Why do you think prophecy focuses on building up, encouraging, and consoling? How can you apply these principles in your relationships?



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EPISODE 8

Prophecy: Speaking God's Heart

3. Have you ever considered asking God to help you see others as He sees them? How might that change the way you interact with people?

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Action Step: This week, spend time pondering any judgements you might be holding against a family, friends, or member of your community. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you see that person you identified the way God sees them. If you're harboring any areas of unforgiveness, anger, or bitterness, consider reaching out to a trusted friend, priest, or mentor to help you work through those feelings. In prayer, surrender your feelings and frustrations about this person to the Father.



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Prophecy in Action

Introduction: In Episode 9, Fr. David takes a deeper dive into prophecy, explaining how it applies practically to our lives. He emphasizes that prophecy is not only for others but can be something we practice regularly in community. This episode also explores how prophecy builds up the body of Christ, challenges us to move away from judgment, and invites us to trust in God's ability to use us for His glory.

Key Themes:

1. Prophecy gives us a Heavenly Perspective

- Quote: "Through a natural lens, we see people as they are. Through prophecy, we see people as they could be in Christ."
- Reflection: Prophecy challenges us to not identify people by their flaws and sins, but rather for their true identity as a creation of God.

2. Prophecy and Community

- Quote: "Prophecy is really beautiful for building up community... we all have needs, and God places people in our lives to help meet those needs."
- Reflection: In a Christian community, prophecy fosters unity and support as it helps people recognize and affirm one another's God-given identity and purpose.

3. False Prophecy

- Quote: "Fortune-telling is the counterfeit of prophecy, because it tries to control the future without responsibility."
- Reflection: True prophecy invites us to trust in God and be responsible for our actions, while counterfeit practices like fortune-telling lead to bondage and fear.



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PROPHECY IN ACTION

4. God Uses Prophecy to Heal and Guide

- Quote: "God gives the church prophecy so that we can build each other up and draw people out of isolation into community."
- Reflection: Prophecy does not function outside of community. Prophecy heals our relationship with ourselves, God, and our neighbor.

5. Prophecy Encourages Us to Dream With God

- Quote: "God prepared you for this long before you knew about it."
- Reflection: Prophecy reassures us that God has a purpose for our lives, even when we don't fully understand it, and invites us to trust Him deeply.

Discussion Questions:

1. How does seeing others through the lens of the Father challenge your perception of people around you?

2. Why is community essential for practicing and receiving prophecy?



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Prophecy in Action

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



EPISODE 10

Our Call to Glory

Introduction: Fr. David reflects on our destiny as children of God and the call to live in the glory of Christ. He reminds listeners that through baptism, we are already living in that glory, and we are being transformed from "glory to glory" by the Holy Spirit. This episode focuses on our identity, purpose, and final destiny—our call to eternal life with God—and challenges us to live with boldness and hope.

Key Themes:

1. Our Destiny

- Quote: "We are ultimately a pilgrim people who are journeying towards glory."
- Reflection: Our ultimate purpose is to be united with God in glory, and our lives are meant to reflect that journey.

2. Transformation in the Holy Spirit

- Quote: "We are being changed into His likeness from one degree of glory to another."
- Reflection: The Holy Spirit actively transforms us into the likeness of Christ, giving us freedom and hope as we grow spiritually.

3. Imitators of Christ

- Quote: "We become like what we behold."
- Reflection: The more we focus on God and meditate on His glory, the more we are transformed into His image

4.. We Are Already Living in Glory

- Quote: "We are already living that glorious life because we have Christ in us."
- Reflection: Baptism initiates us into the glory of God, and we are called to live as lights to the world, reflecting that glory every day.



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OUR CALL TO GLORY

5. Pray with Boldness

- Quote: "We don't pray from earth to heaven, but from heaven to earth."
- Reflection: As children of God, we are seated with Christ in the heavenly places, and this truth should transform the way we pray—with boldness, hope, and authority.

Discussion Questions:

1. How does recognizing that we are destined for glory change the way you see your life and daily challenges?

2. What does it mean to "become what we behold"? What is the primary thing you are beholding at this moment?



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EPISODE 10

Our Call to Glory

3. Take a moment to pray with boldness, authority, and hope. Invite the Holy Spirit, as well as any saints you have a devotion to, to be with you now. Let your heart unfold through this time of uninterrupted journaling.

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, providing a template for handwriting practice or general note-taking. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.

Action Step: This week, intentionally focus your mind on the glory of God. Spend time each day meditating on the truth that you are already living in His glory through baptism. As you pray, shift your perspective from praying for small requests to praying with the confidence that you are seated with Christ. Be assured that you can be totally honest and open with the Father about everything on your heart and mind.



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Resources & Recommended Reading

Content mentioned throughout the series and highly recommended for your continued growth!

In the School of the Holy Spirit by Fr. Jacques Philippe

Hearing God by Dallas Willard

Be Healed by Dr. Bob Schuchts

God Secrets by Shawn Bolz

Spiritual Gifts Handbook by Dr. Mary Healy and Randy Clark

Spiritual Warfare and the Discernment of Spirits by Dan Burke

Unbound by Neal Lozano

Supernatural Saints by Patrick Reis

Switch on your Brain by Dr. Caroline Leaf



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About

Fr. David Dodd, TOR



Hometown: Nashville, TN

Year professed/ordained:

- Entered the Franciscan Community: August 2012
- Professed Vows: May 31, 2014
- Ordained: April 27, 2019

What did you do or consider doing before entering the community?

I considered being a history teacher prior to entering the friars. Teaching is still a great passion of mine in the areas of Scripture, spirituality, pastoral ministry, etc.

What drew you to the TOR friars?

I was attracted by the openness to the Holy Spirit and the fraternal aspect of living in community

What are some hobbies you enjoy?

I enjoy exercising in the form of running or long walks outside (usually listening to an audiobook or podcast). I also enjoy singing and playing guitar, reading, cooking, grilling, smoking delicious BBQ meats and watching movies.

Favorite saint and why:

My new favorite saint has become St Philp Neri, who was known as the Apostle of joy. He was known for his good humor to brighten and encourage others and led people on the streets of Rome to radical encounters with the Holy Spirit. he is famous for saying "A joyful heart is more easily made perfect than a downcast one."

Favorite Bible verse:

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord. (Luke 4:18-19)

Current Ministry:

Director of Novices.



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