

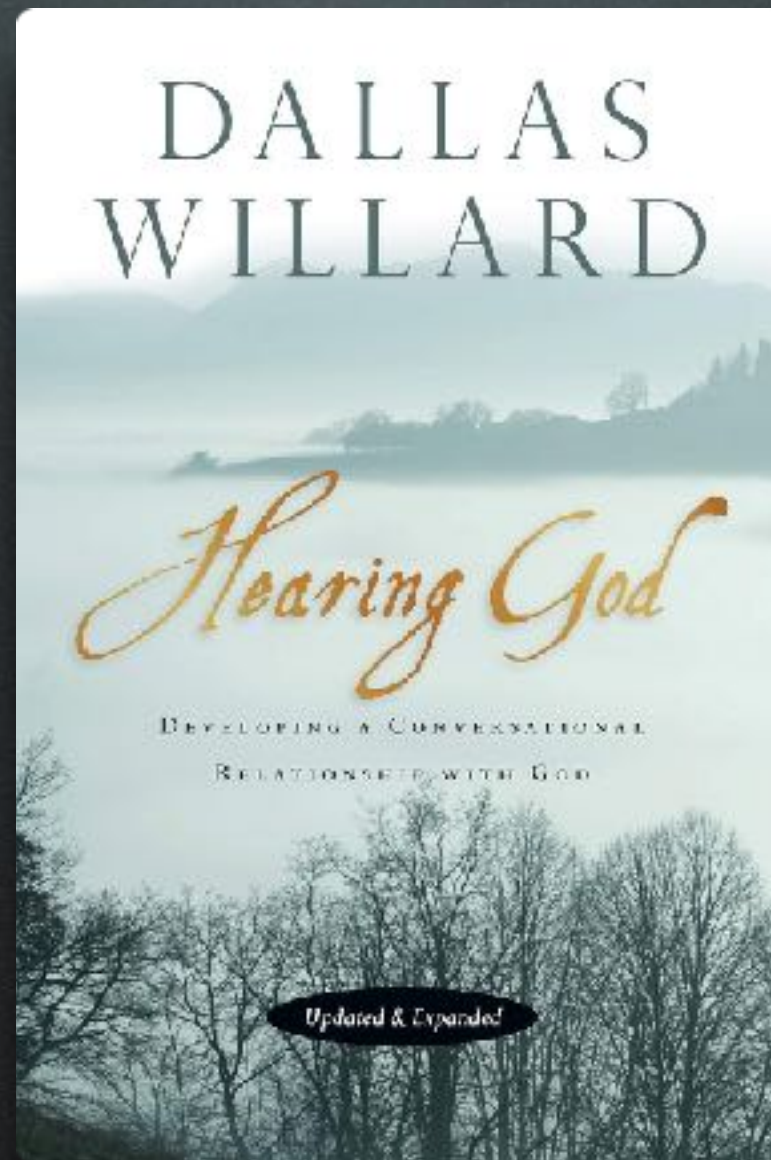
WELCOME to our ten week course  
with JESUS COLLEGE





# HEARING GOD

Session 1 - *“Hearing God: A Daring Idea”* - Preface





## **The Course VISION**

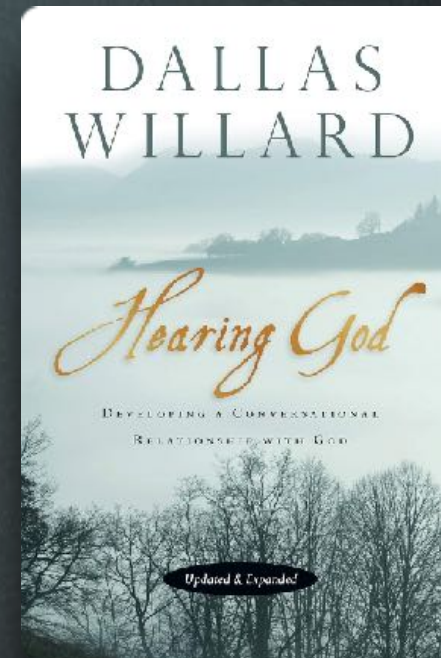
To present a life of daily, dynamic, constant communication with God.

## **The Course INTENTION**

- \* Proclaim biblical truth
- \* Present training to learn to communicate with God like Jesus
- \* Provide weekly encouragement & accountability

## **The Course MEANS**

- \* 10 interactive sessions with optional, extended Q&C
- \* Study resources for learning and spiritual growth practices
- \* A global society of Jesus



## **Format - 30 minutes**

- Welcome, Focus & Review
  - Session Highlights
  - Your Q&C's
  - Summary & Blessing
  - — —
- After: Optional more Q&C

Recorded sessions, slides,  
& study guide in the  
[Jesus College Library](#)



Your Spiritual Audiologist P.A  
*Doug Webster*

- \* Following Jesus since age 14,  
working with Him since age 18.
- \* Vanguard University &  
Fuller Seminary
- \* Met the Jesus Dallas knew 17  
years ago
- \* Started Jesus College in 2015
- \* “Hearing God” is our 26th  
webinar engaging over 2550  
participants from 56 Countries.
- \* Guiding Jesus College’s  
“Master’s in the Master”  
spiritual training
- \* A Blessed Family of 16!







“My sheep hear My voice,  
and I know them,  
and they follow Me.”  
John 10:27

“Give ear to my words, O Lord, consider my meditation.  
Hearken unto the voice of my cry, my King, and my God:  
for unto thee will I pray.

My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O Lord; in the  
morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up.”

Psalm 5:1-3



# HEARING GOD

## *The Back Story*

1973 – Randy Neal, manager of Logos Bookstore, Westwood as an outreach to UCLA, took courses from Dallas at USC's School of Philosophy and spent a lot of time with Dallas.

Dallas was “the most honest broker of intellectual cargo” Randy had ever met.

1983 – When Randy asked Dallas about writing for a Gospel Light book series, Dallas glanced at a sign above his desk.

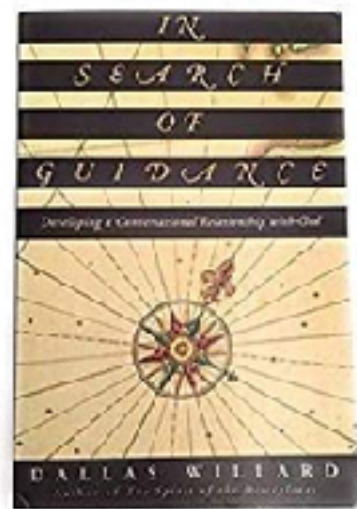
*“Just Say No”*

Randy transcribed tapes from Dallas' teaching that Dallas edited as *In Search of Guidance*, later republished as *Hearing God*. Of course in generous fashion, Dallas gave the book royalty advance to Randy. The same transcription process with Randy happened in 1989 for *The Divine Conspiracy*.

*On Becoming Dallas Willard,*

179-182





# HEARING GOD

## *The Big Idea*

1984 — Dallas published *Logic and The Objectivity of Knowledge* and *In Search of Guidance [Hearing God]*. The latter is not far removed from the philosophy book on Edmund Husserl. Dallas devoted his academic and ministry vocations to the objectivity of knowledge and the belief that it is possible to “go to the things themselves”...especially when “the thing” is the living God who loves to be known, sometimes even through conversation. Dallas wanted to...

*“make real and clear the intimate quality of life with [Jesus] as a conversational relationship with God.”*

He really did believe when a Christian prayed, Jesus would walk right up and engage them in conversation.

*On Becoming Dallas Willard, 195*



# HEARING GOD

## Session 1 - *“Hearing God: A Daring Idea”*

### The Book Preface



#### **A Word from the Author**

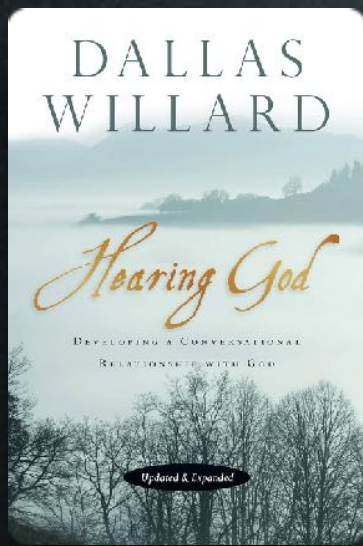
How can you be sure God is speaking to you?

Ultimately we are to move beyond the question of hearing God and into a life greater than our own - that of the Kingdom of God.

You are an unceasing spiritual being, created for an intimate and transforming friendship with the creative Community called the Trinity.

Hearing God::9-10





Hearing God? A daring idea, some would say—presumptuous and even dangerous.

But what if we are made for it?

What if the human system simply will not function properly without it?

There are good reasons to think it will not. The fine texture as well as the grand movements of life show the need. Is it not, in fact, more presumptuous and dangerous to undertake human existence without hearing God?



decision future responsibility fault  
choose lost misguided failure  
dreadful consequences endure fool wrong choice  
desire impulse paralyze forever

We cry to God...

“Thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven.”

Our prayer expresses the burning need for God to be a constant guiding presence in our individual lives.





# HEARING GOD

God has created us for intimate friendship with Himself  
- both now and forever.

*Exodus 29:43-46; 33:11, Psalm 23, Isaiah 41:8*

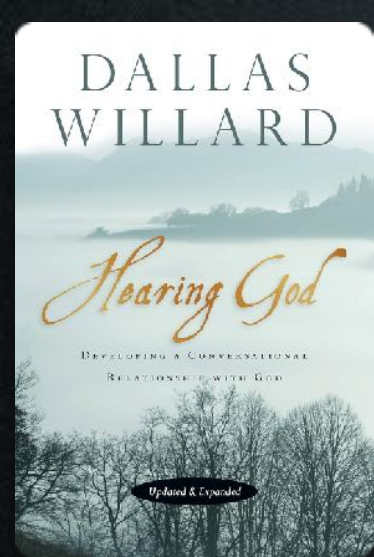
*John 15:14; Hebrews 13:5-6*

As with all close personal relationships, we can surely count on God to speak to each of us when and as it is appropriate.

But what does this really mean?

And how does it work in practice?





*We truly live at the mercy of our ideas;  
this is never more true than with our ideas about God.*

My strategy has been to take as a model the highest and best type of communication that I know of from human affairs and then place this model in the even brighter light of the person and teaching of Jesus Christ.



## Hearing God

...is but one dimension of a richly interactive relationship.

Obtaining guidance is but one facet of hearing God.

...makes sense only in the framework of living in the will of God. (12)

Generally speaking we are in God's will whenever we are leading the kind of life He wants for us. And that leaves a lot of room for initiative on our part, which is essential: our individual initiatives are central to His will for us. (13)

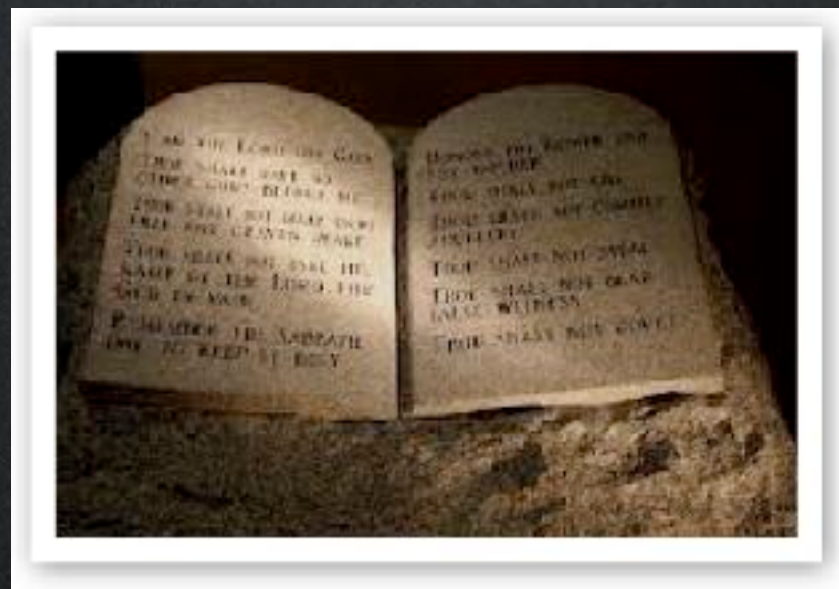




## Hearing God and Doing His Will

Of course, we cannot fail to do what he directs us to do and yet still be in his will.

The Ten Commandments given to Moses are so deep and powerful on these matters that if humanity followed them, daily life would be transformed beyond recognition.





## **Hearing God...More than Doing What You are Told**

“Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table?’ Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink’? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’ (Luke 17:7-10)

The watchword of the worthy servant is not mere obedience but love, from which appropriate obedience naturally flows.

*Much of what you will read here  
is only elaboration on this parable.*



## **Jesus' Community of Transforming Love**

A Whole Life in the Will of God

Today there is a desperate need for large numbers of people throughout our various social groupings who are competent and confident in their own practice of life in Christ and in hearing His voice.

In the pages that follow I deal with hearing God as it relates to living a whole life in the will of God: the question of who God wants us to be as well as what He wants us to do (where appropriate.)







When our children, John and Becky, were small, they were often completely in my will as they played happily in the back yard, though I had no preference that they should do the particular things they were doing there or even that they should be in the back yard instead of playing in their rooms or having a snack in the kitchen. (13)



# Q&C

Your Questions & Comments are welcome!

(Use the Q&A on the bottom of your Zoom screen)



Q&A





You are graced with 10,080 minutes weekly. If you invest 80 minutes weekly in HEARING GOD study and course discussion, you have 10,000 minutes to incarnate life with God in His Kingdom among us becoming the kind of person Jesus would be if He lived your life.



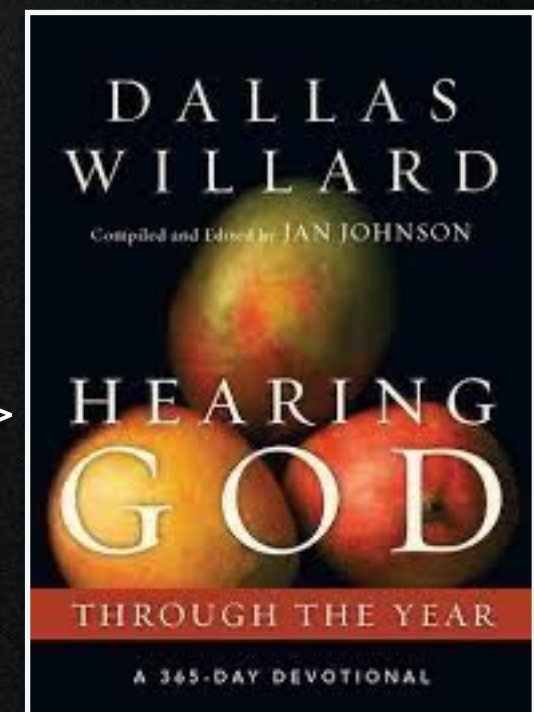
80:00 + 10K

**Meditation** — *Parable of the Servant - Luke 17:7-10*

## **Application**

- 1.) Is doing what God wants the center of my relationship with Him?
- 2.) How is hearing God part of my greater life with Jesus in His Father's Kingdom?
- 3.) How confident am I in my practice of hearing the voice of my Shepherd Jesus?

*Consider a daily moment Hearing God —>*





**80:00 + 10K**

## **“Hearing God Retreat” with Dallas Willard**

Dallas Willard Ministries YouTube Channel



[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?  
list=PLQ7tmLfYg7S9ugPhFtlnry9zKLWx\\_oQmW](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLQ7tmLfYg7S9ugPhFtlnry9zKLWx_oQmW)

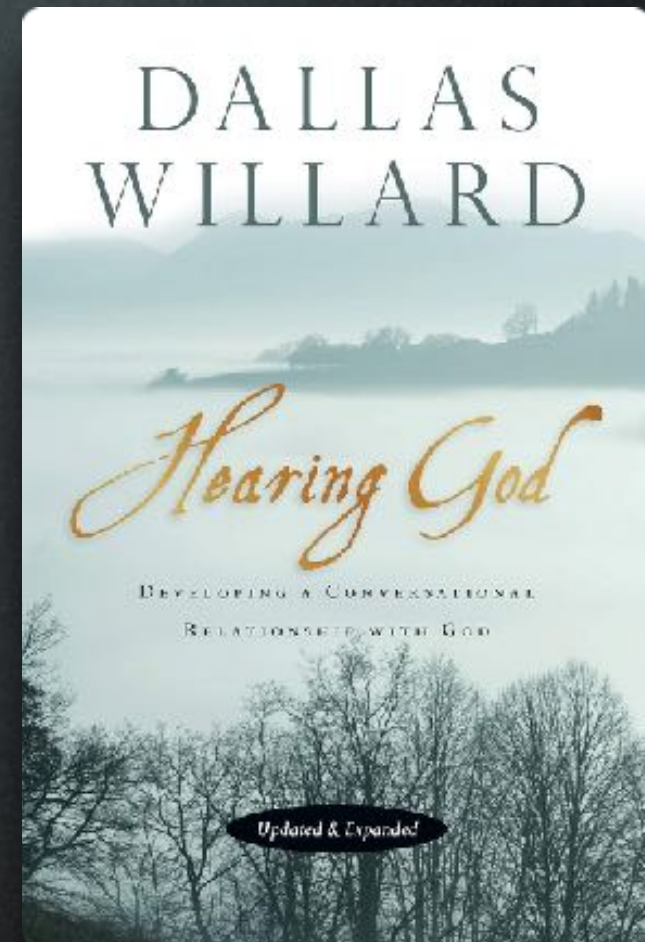
Dallas takes the idea of hearing God out of the context of religion and puts it in the context of real life. Then he provides a solid theological foundation for discussing the idea of hearing God. The life that God presents to us in the Bible includes the assumption that God will be speaking to us (Ps. 32, Is. 30), but many people can't identify God speaking to them or think that they don't deserve for Him to speak to them. We invite you to learn to hear the voice of the Lord and develop a conversational relationship with Him.

St. Peter's Anglican Church, Birmingham, Alabama, U.S.A. August 5-7, 2011  
4 Retreat Sessions + 11 highlight clips



## Session 1 Summary

You were created for an intimate friendship with God nourished by constant communication shaping you into the kind of person more like Jesus who naturally and lovingly does what the Father wants.





## **Next — Session 2**

“A Paradox about Hearing God”  
Chapter 1

Know others who might join our course?

Register — [info@JesusCollege.com](mailto:info@JesusCollege.com)





# Prayer Zoom Gathering

**Thursday, January 18, 2024**

*This Week!*

**8 AM - or - 4 PM** (US Pacific = GMT -8 hours)

45 minutes of prayer with friends of Jesus College.  
You have the option of your camera and microphone on  
to engage personally with our community.

Want to join us?

For the Zoom link — [info@JesusCollege.com](mailto:info@JesusCollege.com)



*PRAY for our work training  
shepherds in Pakistan  
the next two Mondays!*

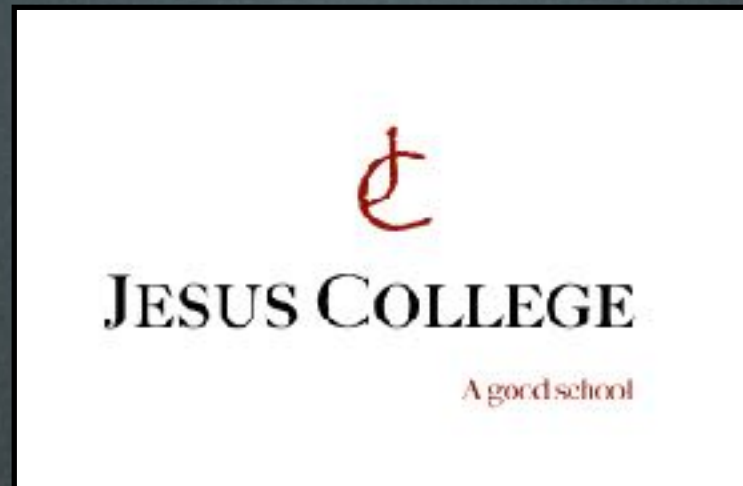


What a friend we  
have in Jesus...so  
spend your next  
10,000 minutes  
learning from Him  
how to have a  
relationship with His  
Father like He does.

*Doug*







Apprentice to Master Love — //Nouns  
*“A Student of the Superior Benefactor”*

Apprentice to Master Love — //Verbs  
*“Training to be proficient in willing the good”*



**The Mission of Jesus College** - To Empower Apprentices to Master Love by knowing Jesus as the One, great truth and live a good life found in such truth.

**The Vision of Jesus College** - To equip Trainers (Ministry, Business Leaders, Parents) to mentor Leaders (Senior Apprentices) to disciple Apprentices to Master love.

**The Storehouse of Jesus College** - 435 [FREE downloadable resources & links](#) offering the good life in the person, work, teachings & life of Jesus through “Eyes to See” visual resources and “Ears to Hear” audio resources, plus gatherings live & online provided by JESUS COLLEGE.