

The Little Voice in Your Head

I dream every night. Usually the dream is a continuous loop of a predicament with no end in sight. It doesn't resolve the situation. This is frustrating as I am a person who likes to check things off the list as being completed.

Occasionally I have an entirely different dream. The occasional dream tells me to do something or make an important change in my life. Unlike the continuous loop of a predicament the solution is clear cut and resolves an important issue for me. It is refreshing to have an answer. I attribute that dream to direction from God. Looking back, any time I followed its conclusion it put me on a path of doing the right thing and a peaceful resolution.



We often have competing voices in our head. One may be tempting us to go in the wrong direction or frustrate us with no solution to a dilemma we face. It may be Satan trying to pull us in the wrong direction. Or, it may be our own human desire of what we should do. On the other hand, when I have a dream that offers a solution I attribute the voice to be the voice of God, speaking through the Holy Spirit.

We each have a conscious, whether we are awake or dreaming. The word conscious is an adjective that means we are "aware of and responding to our surroundings." A second definition talks about "conscious guilt." Neither of these definitions attribute the standard of what is right to God. Instead, they are merely human thoughts, clouded by what we want to happen. On the other hand, God has a much higher standard of what is right than our own human standard.

So, how does God speak to us? God speaks to us gently, perhaps so gently that it is easy for us to ignore. We can detect what God is saying if we have an inner vision, open to hearing God's direction. Its solution gives us peace. That inner vision is recognition of God's standards from His Word. It gives us a clear basis for decisions we make. It is important to know that God's standard is often directly opposite human nature or even logic. Why else would we love our enemies? Why would we choose to enjoy adversity or to turn the other cheek? Human nature is to take the easy way out, yet it skirts rather than solves the issue at hand. If you want to have a clear conscious about your decisions have a clear vision of God's Word. Theologian Oswald Chamber said, "If I am in the habit of continually holding God's standard in front of me, my conscious will always direct me to God's perfect law and indicate what I should do." We may not fully understand it, but remember this verse: *And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:7)*. God's ways are a much higher standard than human ways (read Isaiah 55:8-9), and it leads to a sense of peace.

When I recite the Lord's Prayer we ask for "Thy Will be done," not my will. Whose voice are you listening to? Does it give you peace or continued struggle?

The Bible says: *Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. (Romans 12:2).*

Prayer: Lord give us peace – the peace that comes from doing what you want us to do. Amen.

Additional Verses:

- *What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us. This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words. The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit. The person with the Spirit makes judgments about all things, but such a person is not subject to merely human judgments, for, "Who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ (1 Corinthians 2: 12-16)*
- *Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires (Romans 8:5).*