

READ MY LIPS – JEREMIAH 1:1-4

Series: The Journey of Pursuing God's Will

⁴ Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, ⁵ "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, And before you were born I consecrated you; I have appointed you a prophet to the nations." **Jeremiah 1:4-5 (NASB)**

1. LISTENING IN THE SILENCE

A. We need to be sensitive

⁸ I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go; I will counsel you with My eye upon you. **Psalm 32:8 (NASB)**

B. We need to be perceptive and patient

³¹ Yet those who wait for the LORD Will gain new strength; They will mount up with wings like eagles, They will run and not get tired, They will walk and not become weary. **Isaiah 40:31 (NASB)**

2. LEARNING FROM JEREMIAH

⁵ Before I formed you in the womb I knew [and] approved of you [as My chosen instrument], and before you were born I separated and set you apart, consecrating you; [and] I appointed you as a prophet to the nations. **Jeremiah 1:5 (AMP)**

3. FIVE GUIDELINES FOR READING GOD'S LIPS

⁷ "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸ "For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

Matthew 7:7-8 (NASB)

A. An accepting frame of mind

⁶ Then I said, "Alas, Lord GOD! Behold, I do not know how to speak, Because I am a youth." **Jeremiah 1:6 (NASB)**

B. Biblical insight

⁹⁷ O how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day. ⁹⁸ Your commandments make me wiser than my enemies, For they are ever mine. ⁹⁹ I have more insight than all my teachers, For Your testimonies are my meditation. ¹⁰⁰ I understand more than the aged, Because I have observed Your precepts. ... ¹⁰⁵ Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path. **Psalm 119:97-100, 105 (NASB)**

C. Clarification and conviction from the Holy Spirit

¹ I waited patiently for the LORD; And He inclined to me and heard my cry. **Psalm 40:1 (NASB)**

D. Do you have peace about it?

¹⁵ Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Colossians 3:15-16 (NASB)

⁷ You husbands in the same way, live with *your wives* in an understanding way, as with someone weaker, since she is a woman; and show her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not be hindered.

1 Peter 3:7 (NASB)

E. Expect struggles and surprises

² Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, ³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. **James 1:2-3 (NASB)**

4. PERSONAL APPLICATION

A. Get beyond excuses and rationalizations

⁶ Then I said, "Alas, Lord GOD! Behold, I do not know how to speak, Because I am a youth." **Jeremiah 1:6 (NASB)**

B. The success that follows doing God's will rests with God, not you.

¹⁹ "They will fight against you, but they will not overcome you, for I am with you to deliver you," declares the LORD. **Jeremiah 1:19 (NASB)**

C. Do not rehearse your inadequacy before God.

⁶ Then I said, "Alas, Lord GOD! Behold, I do not know how to speak, Because I am a youth." ⁷ But the LORD said to me, "Do not say, 'I am a youth,' Because everywhere I send you, you shall go, And all that I command you, you shall speak.

⁸ "Do not be afraid of them, For I am with you to deliver you," declares the LORD. **Jeremiah 1:6-8 (NASB)**