

**Volume 5, Day 19: Look for God's Purpose
in Every Circumstance**

God seldom speaks to us in a clear, booming voice, but in ways that are easy to misunderstand. We say, "I wonder if that is God's voice?" Isaiah said that the Lord spoke to him "with a strong hand," that is, by the pressure of circumstances. Nothing touches our lives for any purpose other than God Himself speaking. Do we realize that it is His plan or do we think it is only mere coincidence?

Say as often as possible, "Speak, Lord," and life will become a romance with God. Every time circumstances put pressure on you, say, "I'm listening, Lord". Make time to listen. Better yet, never stop listening! Chastening is more than a means of discipline, it is meant to get me to the place of saying, "What does this mean and what do You want me to do, Lord." Recall a time when you clearly heard God speak to you. Have you forgotten what He said? As we listen, our ear gets more acute, and, like Jesus, we will hear God all the time.

Shall I tell my mentor what God has shown to me? That is the greatest dilemma. When my obedience to God requires that I confront my own spiritual mentor, it creates a great dilemma. If I think that I should not offend my mentor and refuse to obey God to that end, it will prove to be an obstruction between my soul and God. When I disobey God so that I do not offend the most influential people I know, I grieve Him.

God's call to you may hurt your pastor, teacher or mentor, but if you try to prevent the suffering in another life, it will prove an obstruction for both you and the ones you try to protect from suffering. Never ask the advice of another about anything God makes you decide before Him. If you ask advice, you will nearly always side with your counselor. "Immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood."

My Confirming Scriptures:

Aligning Experiences:

DEEPER Every Day -- John Henry Alan