




THIS IS THE HOUR

HOW DOES THE SPIRIT FIND YOU?

The Bible

- **Inerrant word of God**
- **Literary fiction**
- **Cultural reference point**
- **A collection of sacred texts**

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness. 2 Timothy 3:16 NIV



How I Read

1. Read verse, chapter, book before and after the scripture being read
2. Read with an open mind and an open heart
3. Read with intention and purpose
4. Read a variety of translations



Exodus 2:1-4


Now a man of the tribe of Levi married a Levite woman, **2** and she became pregnant and gave birth to a son. When she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him for three months. **3** But when she could hide him no longer, she got a papyrus basket[a] for him and coated it with tar and pitch. Then she placed the child in it and put it among the reeds along the bank of the Nile. **4** His sister stood at a distance to see what would happen to him.

Exodus 2:5-10

5 Then Pharaoh's daughter went down to the Nile to bathe, and her attendants were walking along the riverbank. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her female slave to get it. 6 She opened it and saw the baby. He was crying, and she felt sorry for him. "This is one of the Hebrew babies," she said.


7 Then his sister asked Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the baby for you?"

8 "Yes, go," she answered. So the girl went and got the baby's mother. 9 Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this baby and nurse him for me, and I will pay you." So the woman took the baby and nursed him. 10 When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, [b] saying, "I drew him out of the water."



Exodus 15:20-21

Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand, while all the women went out after her with tambourines, dancing; and she responded to them: Sing to the Lord, for he is gloriously triumphant; horse and chariot he has cast into the sea.




This Is The Hour

For observing and intervening



Queries

- What are you led to?
 - What are we led to?
 - How does the Spirit find you?
- 




THIS IS THE HOUR

HOW DOES THE SPIRIT FIND YOU?

A Brief Recap


- **The Bible means different things to different people**
 - **Early Friends had a different relationship with the Bible than many contemporary Friends**

 - **It is important to watch what is happening to others (even from a distance)**
 - **After observing, one might be called to action**
 - **Action can restore right relationship**
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1 Samuel 3:1-5

1 The boy Samuel ministered before the Lord under Eli. In those days the word of the Lord was rare; there were not many visions.

2 One night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place. 3 The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the house of the Lord, where the ark of God was. 4 Then the Lord called Samuel. Samuel answered, "Here I am." 5 And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." But Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." So he went and lay down.



1 Samuel 3: 6-10

6 Again the Lord called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." "My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down."

7 Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord: The word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him.

8 A third time the Lord called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." Then Eli realized that the Lord was calling the boy.


9 So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

10 The Lord came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!"

Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."




Hearing v. Listening

- **Samuel can clearly hear the voice of the Lord**
 - **Gets up and responds three times, “Here I am”**
 - **Eli does not hear God’s voice**
 - **Why can’t Eli hear God’s voice?**
 - **Samuel can not identify God’s voice, yet...**
 - **“Speak, for your servant is listening.”**
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What Happens Next?

11 And the Lord said to Samuel: “See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make the ears of everyone who hears about it tingle. 12 At that time I will carry out against Eli everything I spoke against his family—from beginning to end. 13 For I told him that I would judge his family forever because of the sin he knew about; his sons blasphemed God, [a] and he failed to restrain them.


17 “What was it he said to you?” Eli asked. “Do not hide it from me. May God deal with you, be it ever so severely, if you hide from me anything he told you.” 18 So Samuel told him everything, hiding nothing from him. Then Eli said, “He is the Lord; let him do what is good in his eyes.”



This is the hour to listen

- **I/We might discern the voice of the inner teacher**
 - **I/We might be called to hold ourselves and others accountable**
 - **I/We might hear that there are consequences for my actions**
 - **Will I/we accept the consequences?**
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HOW DOES THE SPIRIT FIND YOU?

James 1:19

My dear siblings (brothers and sisters), take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry,



Spiritual Speed Limits

- Quick to listen
- Slow to speak
- Slow to become angry




4 Ways to be Quick to Listen, Slow to Speak

1. Ask clarifying questions
2. Define terms, even common ones
3. Be comfortable with silence
4. Pause before you speak




James 1:19-20

19 My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, 20 because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.



Seven Angry Men

1. **Cain** (Genesis 4) Am I blaming someone else for my personal struggles?
 2. **Moses** (Numbers 20) Am I trusting God to fix a situation?
 3. **Balaam/Donkey** (Numbers 22) Am I trusting God to control events according to my best interest? Do I have a false sense of control?
 4. **King Ahab** (1 Kings 21) Am I being selfish? Am I trying to control other people?
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Seven Angry Men

5. **Haman** (Esther) Am I being prideful? Am I feeling insecure or weak?
6. **Esau** (Genesis 25-27) Am I bitter over my own choices? Am I passing on my anger?
7. **Absalom** (2 Samuel 13) Am I seeking revenge?



Anger Management

Deal with the anger. Address the underlying issues

Decide to forgive. Forgiveness, like love, is an action not a feeling.

Do not repay evil for evil (Romans 12:17)

Get rid of all bitterness, rage, and anger (Ephesians 4)

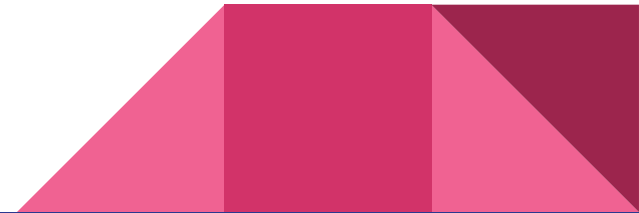


This is the hour for Spiritual Speed Limits


Quick to listen

Slow to speak

Slow to anger



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A Brief Recap

- **The Bible means different things to different people**
- **Early Friends had a different relationship with the Bible than many contemporary Friends**

This is the hour

- **To observe and intervene**
 - **To listen**
 - **To adhere to spiritual speed limits**
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Spiritual Speed Limits

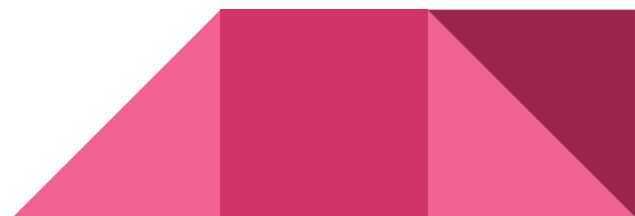
Quick to listen

Slow to speak

Slow to anger



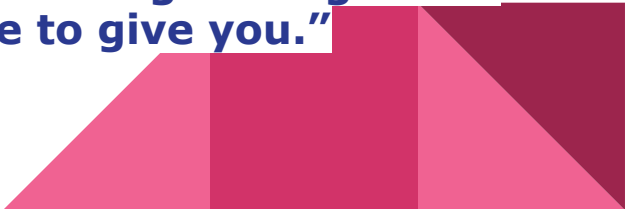
Minimum Speed Limits



1 Kings 3:1-5

1 Solomon made an alliance with Pharaoh king of Egypt and married his daughter. He brought her to the City of David until he finished building his palace and the temple of the Lord, and the wall around Jerusalem. 2 The people, however, were still sacrificing at the high places, because a temple had not yet been built for the Name of the Lord. 3 Solomon showed his love for the Lord by walking according to the instructions given him by his father David, except that he offered sacrifices and burned incense on the high places.


4 The king went to Gibeon to offer sacrifices, for that was the most important high place, and Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. 5 At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon during the night in a dream, and God said, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you."



1 Kings 3:6-9

6 Solomon answered, "You have shown great kindness to your servant, my father David, because he was faithful to you and righteous and upright in heart. You have continued this great kindness to him and have given him a son to sit on his throne this very day.

7 "Now, Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties. 8 Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. 9 So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?"



Solomon

- **“Little child.” Began reign at 19-20 years**
 - **Could have asked for anything... riches, honor, long life etc.**
 - **Requested wisdom**
 - **Wisdom is NOT age specific**
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Wisdom

Wisdom is the appropriate application of knowledge

James 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools[a] despise wisdom and instruction.




What is wisdom and how to get it

- Wisdom is a gift from God
- Ask God for wisdom
- Recognize that wisdom is a spiritual act more than a cognitive development or education
- Use wisdom for the glory of God and others



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This is the hour

- Observe and intervene in order to restore right relationship
Miriam
- Listen and discern the voice of God speaking through new vessels Samuel & Eli
- Adhere to spiritual speed limits (You can move too slow)
James
- Ask God for wisdom Solomon
- Pay close attention to sound teaching Timothy




1 Timothy 4:8

8 for, while physical training is of some value, godliness is valuable in every way, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.



1 Timothy 4:12-16

12 Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity...14 Do not neglect the gift that is in you 15 Put these things into practice, devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress. 16 Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; continue in these things, for in doing this you will save both yourself and your hearers.



1 Timothy 4:16

16 Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; continue in these things, for in doing this you will save both yourself and your hearers.



The Inward Teacher

“As for you, the anointing you received from him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit — just as it has taught you, remain in him.”

(1 John 2:27)



The Inward Teacher

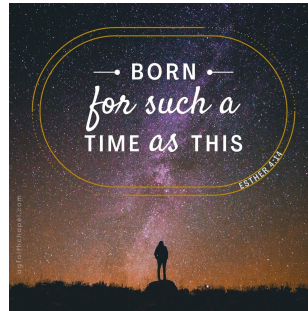
Christ has come to teach
his people himself.



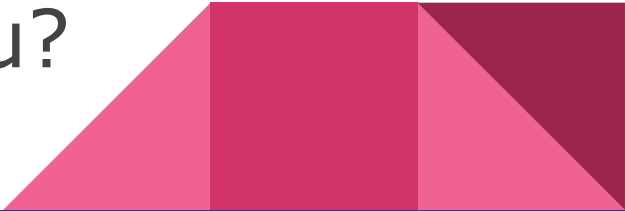
Esther 4:14

For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?

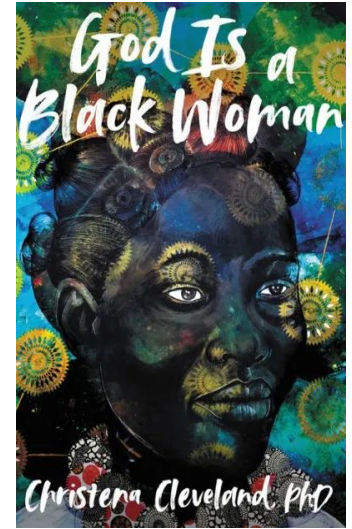
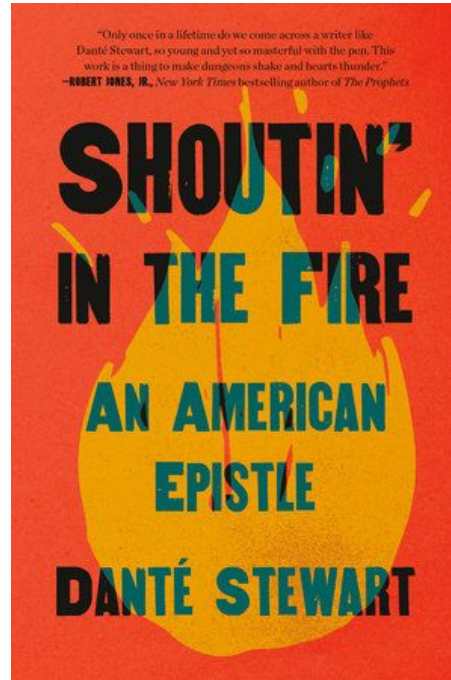
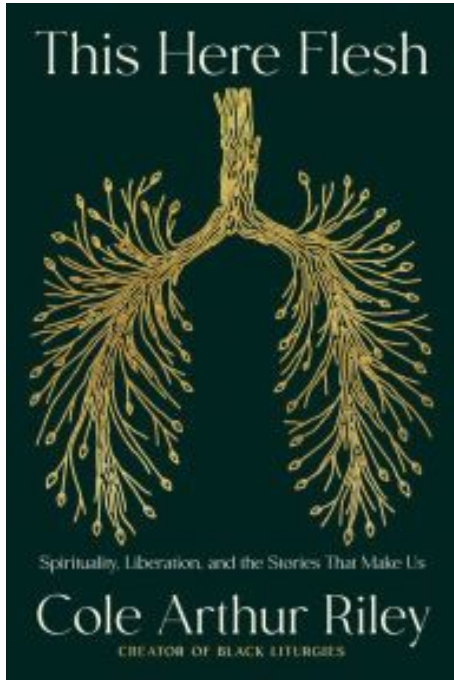
- Esther 4:14, NIV



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Recommended Titles



Contact Information

Regina Renee Nyégbeh

cnmclerk@fgcquaker.org

