

Abundant Life Church
Pastor Steve Finton
August 20, 2017

Series: ***Voices***

Title: ***The Different Voices You Use***

Romans 15:13 (NKJV)

Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Can I honestly say that my life is filled with all joy and peace, believing God?

Who is causing you to lose hope and draining your joy?

There is one voice you hear all the time that is responsible for losing your joy — your own. You can't escape it!

How you sound to yourself influences your overall state of mind.

Our voice channels traits and attitudes, such as confidence or judgment.

The findings suggest that not only do we use our voice to communicate emotions to others, but we actually listen to our own voice to glean information on how we're feeling.

Get rid of your Inner Judge voice.

Ephesians 4:29 (NIV)

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

We all say judgmental things about others, and we often say worse things about ourselves.

Discouragement is a sense of certain failure and a withdrawal of heart energy.

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I believe there are three very distinct voices within all of us:

Voice #1: Adult Voice

Joshua 1:9 (NIV)

...Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Voice #2: Parent Voice

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Philippians 4:8 (NCV)

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, if anything is excellent or praiseworthy, think about such things.

Bad Parent Voice: always pointing out how you could be better.

Discouragement is a special hazard for pastors.

2 Timothy 4:10 (NLT)

Demas, having loved this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica.

Change the emoticon when you're discouraged!

Psalms 61:1-2 (KJV)

When my heart is overwhelmed, lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

The "Hall of Discouragement" led to the "Hall of Faith."

All of us have a ceaseless war of words that happens inside our soul.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 (NCV)

We do live in the world, but we do not fight in the same way the world fights. 4 We fight with weapons that are different from those the world uses. Our weapons have power from God that can destroy the enemy's strong places. We destroy people's arguments 5 and every proud thing that raises itself against the knowledge of God. We capture every thought and make it give up and obey Christ.

Voice #3: A Child's Voice

Matthew 19:13-15

Then people brought little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them and pray for them. But the disciples rebuked them. Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." When he had placed his hands on them, he went on from there.

In ancient times children did not know how to behave properly, therefore they were told they should be seen, but not heard!

Jesus knows children don't do everything right. It's ok with him that they say whatever is on their minds. He is glad they haven't learned to be fake.