

SPOKE





HEARING THE "VOICE OF GOD"

CHRISTIANESE FOR THE "VOICE OF GOD"

- The Still Small Voice
- "God told me..."
- "I felt led to..."
- · "I got an impression."
- "I've got the peace of God."
- Audible Voice



ACTS 10 PETER & CORNELIUS



At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion of what was known as the Italian Cohort, a devout man who feared God with all his household, gave alms generously to the people, and prayed continually to God. About the ninth hour of the day he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God come in and say to him, "Cornelius." And he stared at him in terror and said, "What is it, Lord?" And he said to him, "Your prayers and your alms have ascended as a memorial before God. And now send men to Joppa and bring one Simon who is called Peter. He is lodging with one Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the sea." When the angel who spoke to him had departed, he called two of his servants and a devout soldier from among those who attended him, and having related everything to them, he sent them to Joppa.

ACTS 10:1-8





The next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the housetop about the sixth hour to pray. And he became hungry and wanted something to eat, but while they were preparing it, he fell into a trance and saw the heavens opened and something like a great sheet descending, being let down by its four corners upon the earth. In it were all kinds of animals and reptiles and birds of the air. And there came a voice to him: "Rise, Peter; kill and eat." But Peter said, "By no means, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean." And the voice came to him again a second time, "What God has made clean, do not call common." This happened three times, and the thing was taken up at once to heaven. Now while Peter was inwardly perplexed as to what the vision that he had seen might mean...

ACTS 10:9-17



INWARDLY PERPLEXED

- 1. Context: Peter does not have any of the New Testament books. He only has Jesus and the Old Testament.
- 2. A violation of the strict dietary laws in the Old Testament.
- 3. Evaluating: "What God has made clean, do not call common."

EVALUATING THE IMPRESSION

1. The Overall Teaching of Scripture

Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion, for behold, I come and I will dwell in your midst, declares the LORD. And many nations shall join themselves to the LORD in that day, and shall be my people. And I will dwell in your midst, and you shall know that the LORD of hosts has sent me to you. - Zechariah 2:10-11

2. The Teachings of Jesus

And he called the people to him and said to them, "Hear and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but what comes out of the mouth; this defiles a person. - Matthew 15:10-11



PRINCIPLET

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES



behold, the men who were sent by Cornelius, having made inquiry for Simon's house, stood at the gate and called out to ask whether Simon who was called Peter was lodging there. And while Peter was pondering the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men are looking for you. Rise and go down and accompany them without hesitation, for I have sent them." And Peter went down to the men and said, "I am the one you are looking for. What is the reason for your coming?" And they said, "Cornelius, a centurion, an upright and God-fearing man, who is well spoken of by the whole Jewish nation, was directed by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and to hear what you have to say." So he invited them in to be his guests.

ACTS 10:17-23



The next day he rose and went away with them, and some of the brothers from Joppa accompanied him. And on the following day they entered Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends.

ACTS 10:23-25



PRINCIPLE 2

CONSULT IN COMMUNITY



When Peter entered, Cornelius met him and fell down at his feet and worshiped him. But Peter lifted him up, saying, "Stand up; I too am a man." And as he talked with him, he went in and found many persons gathered. And he said to them, "You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a Jew to associate with or to visit anyone of another nation, but God has shown me that I should not call any person common or unclean. So when I was sent for, I came without objection. I ask then why you sent for me."

ACTS 10:25 - 29



PRINCIPLE 3

EMBRACE THE UNEASINESS

UNEASINESS

- One of the clear signs that an impression is from God is when it makes you uneasy (not in terms of violating God's law).
- This uneasiness could have different sources:
 - Out of your comfort zone.
 - Making a sacrifice for others.
 - Stepping into the unknown.



While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, "Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

ACTS 10:44-48

SUMMARY:

- Search the Scriptures
- Consult in Community
- Embrace the Uneasiness



CLARITY ANXIETY

WE ARE ANXIOUS WHEN WE DON'T GET A "CLEAR SIGN" FROM GOD

TRUST IN GOD

- Trust in God even though you cannot figure out the next steps in this current moment.
- Trust in God that He is sovereign, and He has taken your limitations into account.
- Trust in God and make the best decision in full surrender.



IN GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY, HE HAS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT OUR INABILITY

CASE STUDY 1: PRAYER AND REVIVAL

"God is faithful and almighty. He promised He would do it and He did it."

Malaysian pastor in Asbury (Salt&Light, saltandlight.sg)



CASESTUDY 2: ROMANCE

"The first time we held hands was after we got engaged."

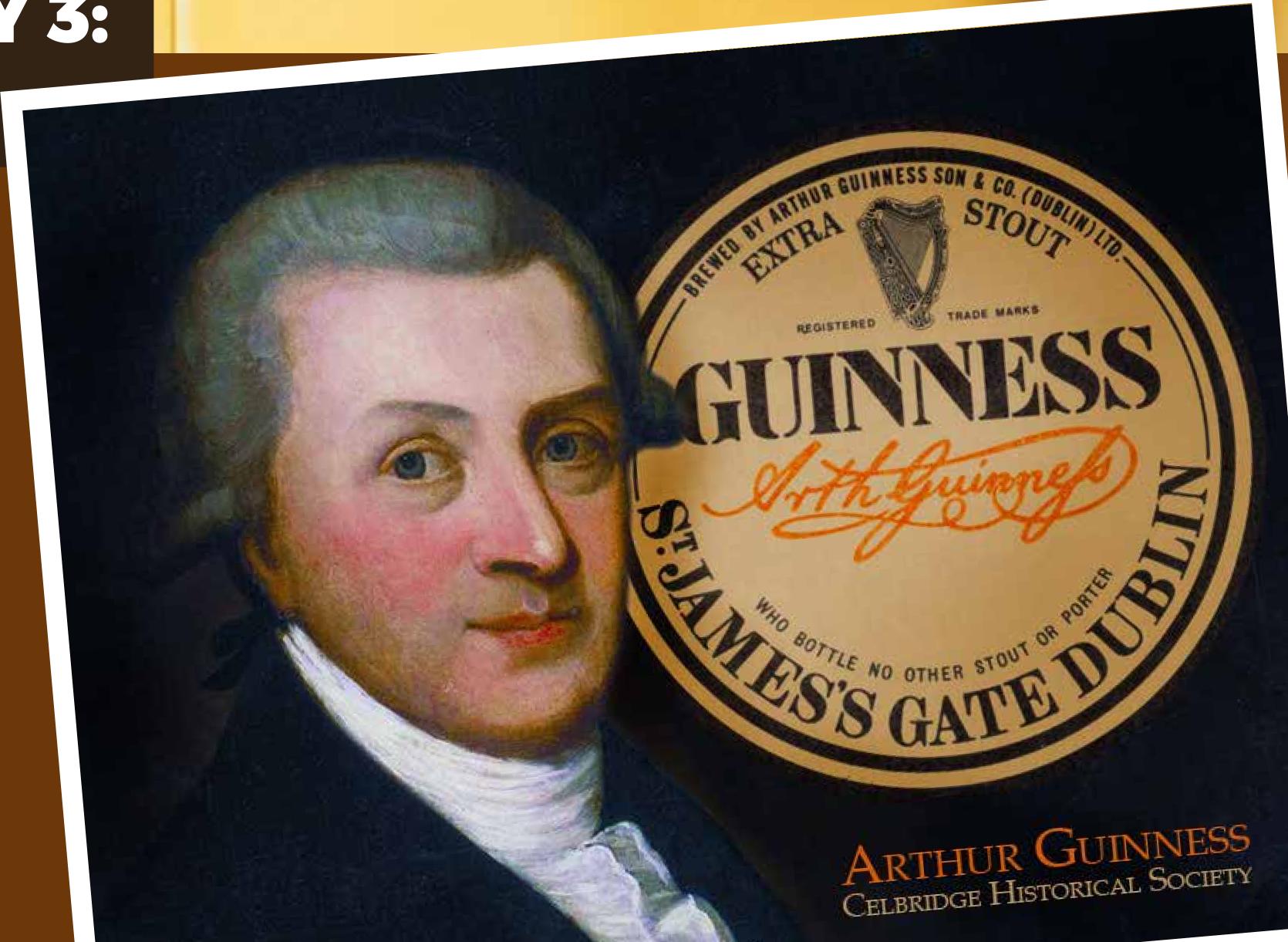
Deputy Minister Hannah Yeoh's love story (Salt&Light, saltandlight.sg)



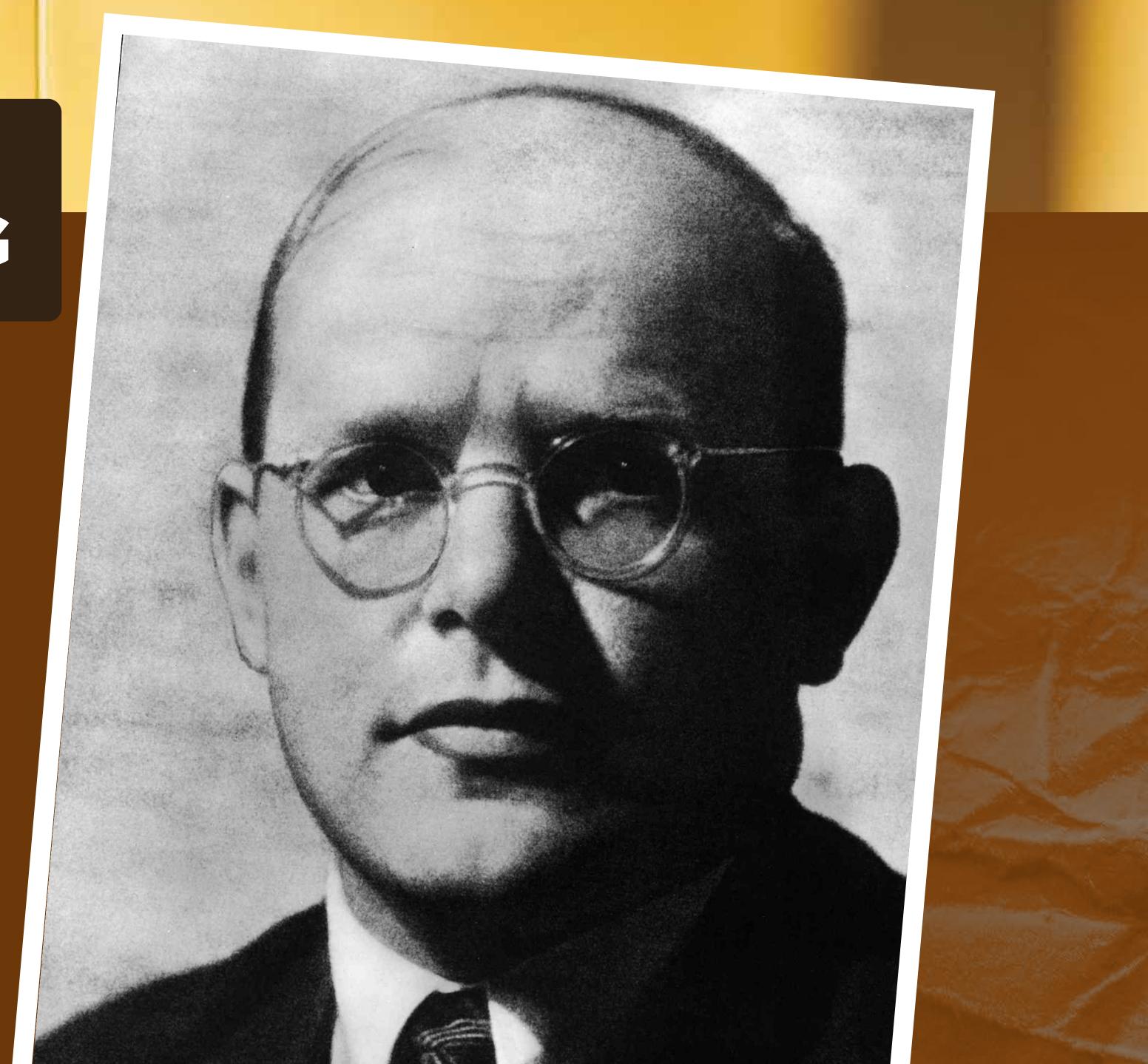
CASE STUDY 3: BUSINESS

God and Guinness?

IBEC Ventures



CASE STUDY 4: BIBLE READING



CASE STUDY 5: MISSIONARY

