

Working With The Voice Transcript

WWTV Episode 005

Co-Creating with the Holy Spirit

July 4, 2018

Hey listeners! This is your host, Juliet Mee. Working With the Voice is a course designed to teach you how to enhance the communication between the Holy Spirit and you. Each episode builds on information from the previous ones, so it's best to listen in order. Today we will be going through new material that I consider to be of central importance to your understanding as we move forward. I'm going to recap some of the previous concepts first, and add a couple tweaks to the information that I think are needed due to the feedback I've gotten. As always, thanks for listening.

Here's the ten minute review: What you were supposed to get out of the first episode was a basic understanding of the circumstances that led me to this work. Hearing the voice of the Holy Spirit is an inherently internal experience. At this time, most internal experiences cannot be fully validated by science, but there are parts that can be studied as a human phenomenon with common characteristics. The inability of current studies to explain the events better doesn't mean you shouldn't pay attention to what you are experiencing inside yourself. In fact, it's just the opposite. Internal experience is what helps us find self-validation, and self-validation is an important part of how we learn and gain wisdom. The second and third episodes were about what has been studied about this practice and what is reasonable and necessary to understand to evaluate this practice. Before we validate our own thinking and can say for sure that we are right, it's important to understand our biases. Bias is about being wrong. In episode 3 with David McRaney, we went through a bunch of these specific biases, but that was only the tip of the iceberg. There are around 200 biases that have been recognized and cataloged. There are numerous scientists who have proposed that these methods of thinking called cognitive biases evolved so we could function better and change faster in our environments, and that we have now gotten to the inevitable point that we are using those biases for things they weren't intended. Biases give us an undeserved confidence and potentially intense emotions about our opinions because it seems to make sense that we got to our answers through a systematic process, even though that process led us directly to the wrong answer. We should not self-validate all of our intense emotions. It is increasingly becoming necessary for our survival as individuals and as a species that we put brakes on ourselves at times. Intense arguments, anger and hostility is obviously present in the world. It's mind blowing and the human race is unnecessarily disadvantaged because of it. My own hostility in general isn't directed at a particular religion, but it is something I am working on with the Holy Spirit, because I'm a Christian. Of course not all Christians are hostile, however if you do SELF IDENTIFY as a Christian and you feel justified in being hostile to anyone, I think there's a bit of work to be done on your knowledge base, your brain chemistry, or your thinking processes. If you SELF IDENTIFY as a non-Christian, it seems to be fair to say that you don't have to play by Christian rules and in this I can completely understand why non-Christians have hostility that they don't feel obligated to work on.

In the second episode of Working With The Voice with Tanya Luhrmann as the guest, we went into differences in voice hearing experiences as reported by healthy people and non-healthy people. I have given examples attempting to point out that there are different voices in our heads, and not all of them come from the Holy Spirit. If you are hearing angry, negative, demeaning chatter, that's not the Holy Spirit. The voice of the Holy Spirit is always loving, kind, and peaceful and would never encourage you to think violently against another person, much less to say something against them or do something that

would hurt or punish them. Look first to cognitive bias and tribal thinking before you self-validate any negativity towards other people because Christianity is a religion of deep and sincere love to God and to all other people. Period. This does not mean we should split the Christian tribe into “Good Christians” and “Bad Christians”. We are all wonderfully incomplete creations, Christian or not, and we have to guard ourselves against the natural tendency of the mind to want to separate people into in-groups and out-groups. This is the modern day version of tribal behavior that used to be necessary, “us” vs “them”. Originally, “us vs them” was serious business. “They” wanted to kill “us”, many times because “they” wanted to take what “we” had, and thus threatened our tribe’s existence. Most tribal thinking is no longer necessary or based upon things that could threaten our existence but we argue about the differences as if they are important, and then just as quickly will fight for different beliefs that absolutely contradict the previous situation. We have reached a time where microscopic differences are able to be identified in stunningly quick ways, and due to collective mass communication like social media this is not going to slow down, it will only speed up. I laugh about it now, but I once broke up with someone for saying “A-rab” in a public setting. Although I don’t think that should have been my justification, I don’t think it’s unusual. Something as small as the way a person pronounces words can now signal to us a characteristic that can make us devalue them. Our intolerances have the potential serious consequence of isolation and loneliness. It takes no deep thinking to connect the dots between this isolation and loneliness and the suicide crisis that we are now experiencing. Religion is famous for fanning the flames of hostility which then turns into intolerance and hate. Once you begin the process of separating people into groups based not upon their meaningful cultural differences, but upon their rightness or their wrongness in relation to your self-proclaimed rightness, you are heading down a very slippery slope. The definition of hypocrisy is the practice of claiming to have moral standards or beliefs to which your own behavior does not conform. I agree that hypocrisy is a big problem, and always has been. We are all hypocrites. Throughout the New Testament Jesus repeatedly calls out the religious hypocrites and warns his followers to not be hypocrites. He instructs them time and time again to search themselves and get rid of hypocrisy in the deepest way possible. The only hypocrisy that we can truly deal with is the hypocrisy within ourselves. If we don’t understand this fully, other people’s hypocrisy can lead us to moral outrage, which is, in my opinion, super dangerous.

I’ve placed a pdf of a document by an anthropologist named Ward H. Goodenough called “Moral Outrage; Territoriality in Human Guise”. Read it. Its first line is “Moral outrage is a response to the behavior of others, never one’s own.” Read it, and begin the process of looking within yourself for those characteristics that promote detrimental tribal thinking. Get your eyes off other people’s unresolved problems, and change the conversation to one where we can all see ourselves as connected and having the same basic needs and interests. This is the true path of Christianity and it is needed now.

In the last episode, episode 4, we began looking into some concepts of Christianity and the benefits of working with the Holy Spirit. We described the coming of the Holy Spirit after Jesus’ crucifixion, and the effect it had of enlightenment on the people. Jesus’s life, death, and resurrection, along with this enlightenment of the Holy Spirit would change the world in a way that has never been experienced before or since. Through this sequential training, we are laying down the first building blocks of a co-creative adventure between you and the Holy Spirit. We have talked about the fact that we act as if we are a finished psychological product at this time. We think that we have grown and changed substantially in the past, but that we won’t substantially change much in the future from who we are now. But that’s not so. It’s what’s called the end of history illusion. People tend to see significant changes in themselves in hindsight but fail to predict that these changes will continue. And they will. You can have significant changes in your thinking and perception, where you will be much different in the future than you are now. I’m hoping that you will give everything you have to this practice. It may

be similar to things you have worked with or it may be nothing like your experiences in the past, but will build on the things that are good about you and that you have put time and effort on learning and becoming.

When I say that you will change by going into the experience of co-creating with the Holy Spirit, it brings up some weird incidents from the past when I have been asked by people, not just those folks who ring the doorbell, to become Christian and accept all of the benefits of this information. What blows my mind now is that I didn't request that they tell me anything. These requests of me came from people who didn't know me at all, I didn't know them, they expected me to make that decision on the spot, and in doing so I would have to accept their word that everything in my life would change in that one minute. In addition, they were inviting me to become a part of their lifestyle, one which was at least from my perspective in that moment, not very appealing. I can't think of a worse job, asking complete strangers to say they are sinners...From what I know now about how people change their minds, I am blown away by the amount of time that people have wasted in these specific types of evangelical endeavors. What they are attempting to do is truly noble. How they are trying to do it may be worse than misinformed because of the backfire effect, which we also discussed in depth during episode 3. Their efforts probably made many people dig their heels in and refuse to accept the message EVER. I'm trying to get you to accept that there may be things out there that you don't know about, but are things you want, like increased synchronicity, direction and answers to problems that you have been asking for. The beginning step is for me to present this in a way that first has you suspend your disbelief, and then to keep you there long enough that I can have you question some of your own beliefs. If you suspend disbelief long enough the Holy Spirit will reveal himself in an experience that is personal and meaningful to you. So there's no secrets here on the process. If you will believe for just a moment that you are always changing your mind, and that's a good thing, and that obviously there's more to know than we know now, and if you will keep the door open for just a little bit, that you will see something like you have never seen before, you will have an experience that converts your thinking. How do I know that you will have an experience, sent to you by the Holy Spirit? Because that pattern is shown all through the bible. Jesus said that people needed signs and wonders or they wouldn't believe. So you can be assured that if you will open your mind to the good that can come to you by listening to the Holy Spirit, you will begin to have experiences. Please don't think of this as the lamp you rub where the genie pops out and you get three wishes. It doesn't happen that way.

To finish up this review, we are created in three parts called the self, consisting of the body, soul and spirit that work together as one self, one you. The creator, has three parts too, God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit communicates through the human spirit. That is the place of connection that we will work to enhance. 2000 years ago, Jesus showed us the new way that God would be dealing with humans. His message was that God was no longer going to hold us to the impossible rules given in the Old Testament. We will now live under a rule of grace, where we are loved by God and not punished for our mistakes if we acknowledge them. The Holy Spirit is the active part of the creator, and although he functions in many ways, the function that Working With The Voice emphasizes is the function of the helper. He provides many things to us, called "the gifts of the Holy Spirit" including wisdom, understanding, and separate from any other education, he will teach you about the Creator and Jesus. He also increases the characteristics inside us of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

As we move out of the review and before we dive into the new material today, I need to emphasize the use of the Daily Practice. In the next episode we go through the Workbook, and the Workbook is all about the specifics of the Daily Practice. I'll release the episode and the Workbook together. Currently

there is a document that explains the basics of the Daily Practice and has copies of the forms that we will use in the Workbook on the website, workingwiththevoice.com.

Although I'm pretty amazed that there have already been hundreds of downloads of the podcast, the podcast is not the most important part of Working With The Voice; the Daily Practice is. It's an active means of strengthening your spirit's ability to connect more fully with the Creator, through the Holy Spirit. I want you to be critical thinkers, and to be a critical thinker absolutely includes the concept of not just understanding processes, but applying them through action. Due to the benefit of digital data, I can see that despite my referring to the Daily Practice multiple times in every episode as well as providing links in every one of the weekly emails, there are very few listeners who have gone in and downloaded the Daily Practice paperwork in comparison to the number of people listening. Because I know human nature, I know that of all the people who have downloaded this Daily Practice most aren't using it "Daily" like its intended. So for the two or three of you listeners who are using the Daily Practice the way it's intended, Yay! Good for you! You are the ones who will see the results I say are promised. There's no attempt to shame anyone here, just a recognition that we all tend to be upset when things don't work the way we expect but when we check our following the directions given, we either have not even attempted the work or we have followed the instructions so poorly that it doesn't even resemble the original. There are definitely other types of processes that you can follow to the exact letter of the instructions and they just aren't going to turn out like was expected, much less promised. That's not what I'm talking about here. I'm talking about the principle that you must use the machine the way the machine was designed to get its full benefit. As an example, I have known how to meditate for many years but haven't done it regularly until now. Practicing stillness on a daily basis has produced profound results that I couldn't get out of the same technique practiced sporadically. I can enter a state of relaxation and mental and physical stillness immediately now, on command. In addition, the techniques in the Daily Practice are synergistic. When things are synergistic, it means they work better together than separately, so that one practice added to another practice doesn't give you twice the effect; it gives you more than twice the effect. The practices change the receiver, not the sender. The Holy Spirit is always talking to us, we just don't know how to listen, or we don't have the capacity to be still enough long enough to hear the message. Hearing for some occurs immediately, but not usually. Usually it's a gradual process that is more like using knobs for frequency and volume when tuning in to an old radio. Once you know how to tune in, you can do it faster. When you do hear, it's not that you don't know what you heard, it's that you aren't sure of the source. Was that me or was that the Holy Spirit? We will use techniques to be able to discern this later.

Initially the direct communication won't be as consistent as you'd like. To be clear, you can communicate with the Holy Spirit conversationally once you have gotten good at the process. The first communication from Him that you recognize may not come during the Daily Practice time. It may come later in the day as the "still small voice" that you have probably heard before. And it may not be profound! Earlier this year when I was ready to throw out one of my pairs of expensive sandals not because they looked bad but because they got stinky, I clearly heard the Holy Spirit say, "Remove the insoles and clean them." I looked at the insoles and was confused because they seemed to be securely fixed to the soles. He said, "They are velcroed. Peel them off." I did, and was amazed to see that they were created to be removed and cleaned. I had absolutely no knowledge of that function, but it saved me 150 bucks. While you are in the Daily Practice, He may start the communication because he has something to say to you, or you may start the conversation by asking him things. However, the voice of the Holy Spirit is not always through this type of conversation or what we are going to begin to call "the inner voice". The Holy Spirit speaks in three other main ways and we will talk about them all in the future; through what is normally called "your conscious" which we will call the inner witness, through

dreams and visions, and through a method that I have found to be surprising and dramatic called revelation. Revelation is spiritual or practical understanding that arrives in a way that bypasses the normal senses and is unrelated to your previous education in a subject. When I have had something revealed, it was shown to me complete and whole. I received the concept of this course that way and was shown the website, podcast, workbook and all the Daily Practice forms in their entirety. It took me a very long time to relay that information to other people so they could create what you are now experiencing. Each of the four ways of communication has its benefits and all of them feel amazing when they occur, however I consider the ability to sit down in a chair, still my mind, ask the Holy Spirit a question and get an immediate answer to be the pinnacle culmination of the skills in the Daily Practice. All of these methods combined lead to what I call the extraordinary life, one that is filled with synchronicity, many moments of wonder and awe, and a path that works towards your greater good in every circumstance. In addition, I absolutely believe that you have things within you that are your purpose in life, your jewel, which you may or may not know about at this time. He will give you everything you need to accomplish that jewel through his communications.

If you aren't experiencing any of the types of communication from the voice of the Holy Spirit yet, and you want to, my first question will be are you following the instructions? Listening to the podcast or reading material is interesting, but it's not the same thing as doing the work. Don't mistake talking about the work or thinking about the practice as actually doing the work. As an employer, many times employees couldn't seem to understand that difference, but were appalled when I asked for them to be accountable for their work. You don't have to be accountable to me at all, but if you say I didn't fulfill the outcome that I promised, I want to know how much time and effort you put into the practice. If you are doing the practice and aren't getting results, then do the practice in a more focused way for a longer period of time. It will work. Initially, you shouldn't expect to complete the practice in less than an hour. After you begin to see results, I predict you will spend more time than an hour as the processes become more interesting and relevant. After you master the processes, an hour a day will usually be sufficient to complete it all. Dual process theory says we make mistakes when we attempt to use system 1 thinking which is quick and easy when we should use system 2 thinking, which is slow and sequential. Your history and level of experience with the individual practices and concepts in the Daily Practice will determine whether you will be able to use system 1 or system 2 thinking, however I encourage you to start out assuming you don't know the practice and for at least a little while, slow down and use system 2 thinking. Read the instructions and follow them. Remember that we all are subject to the Dunning Krueger effect and may easily think we are better at things than we really are. Send me a message or email if there is anything that is unclear or you'd like feedback about.

Co-Creation occurs through work, and Working With The Voice occurs in cycles. We have to understand, then connect to hear new information, then we have to integrate what we heard by acting. We can then evaluate the outcomes of those actions to form a new understanding. Understand, connect, hear, act, understand, connect, hear, act.

If your understanding is to be correct, we both have to use words correctly and also figure out what those words mean. Use a dictionary or an internet search to look up every single word in this course that you are unsure of. I attempt to use words correctly, but there might be a different meaning of the word that you need to know. The Holy Spirit uses words with me all the time that I think I know the meaning of, but I find out that I don't. One of the first times this occurred, He said, "I will quicken your life." I was extremely glad when he said that because I had been going through a time when it seemed everything was moving super slowly. He then said, "You don't know what quicken means. Go look it up." I told him that I did know what it meant, that it meant to speed things up. He said, "That's not what I'm talking

about. Go look it up.” When I looked it up, I saw that it meant to be given life, to animate. It’s even called “quicken” when a woman feels the first movements of the fetus inside her. Later I would be amazed as I began to see new things in my world, and it was as if I saw more color, more twinkling light, more beauty in nature, as if nature had been photo shopped . He showed me things I had never seen before, and they simply had more life in them. I had never heard that term, “quicken”, before he used it with me, but since that time, I have read many uses of the word in relation to actions of the Holy Spirit. You will find that he uses many of the same words in his communications with his listeners. I have asked him why he doesn’t just tell me the definition of a word but he explained that he wants me to look it up for myself as verification, a second witness to his communications.

I do try to use words correctly in this podcast, and in addition, I try not to use words that are normally used in religious settings. For almost all of us, there are words that have been used in traditional religious concepts that trigger negative emotions and can even be traumatic to people. It’s easier to use a synonym. You may not have heard some of these words used in a Christian context, and that is great with me! If I can keep from triggering you then I can keep you longer in that state of suspended belief that is necessary until you build up some experiences in the practice.

If you have listened this far, it’s natural to assume that you consider me to be one of your teachers, and that you feel like you know me at least a little bit. By now, I hope you know I love to learn and that I want you to experience some of the concepts that might make you a bit wiser. Up to this point, a lot of what we have discussed falls somewhere around the term “philosophy” but we are going to be moving the discussion into an area that is more like “theology” so I’d like to discuss those two terms for a moment. The word philosophy means “love of wisdom”. The classical Greeks were the first to start from positions of questioning all existing assumptions, *especially religious ones*. Philosophy needs to start from a skeptical position, even if the philosopher eventually arrives at a position of knowledge or certainty.

Theology is the study of God and religious belief. Although it’s not part of the definition, theology starts from a position of certainty. A certain number of facts about God are taken for granted, and the theologians task is then to analyze and elaborate on the effects of those facts. I’m neither a philosopher nor a theologian, but my teaching style is somewhat philosophical, and includes how I came to my beliefs. I assume that we don’t agree on the same facts about God, so this isn’t theology. In addition, philosophy of religion is not theology. The terms aren’t interchangeable. People who study the philosophy of religion are usually more religiously inclined than neutral, but theology in general goes from the assumption that the person studying the religion believes in that religion.

So this isn’t philosophy of religion, and it’s kind of like theology, but in significant ways, it isn’t theology. I certainly did not know this until recently, but I’m an apologist. I knew that there were apologists who were somehow related to religion so I assumed that a “Christian Apologist” was someone who apologized for the crappy things that Christians did. Sincerely, that’s what I thought. Apologists start from what I think is a bit more sound position than mainstream theology. Apologists concede that while they definitely believe, their presumed target audience has good reason to doubt their religious doctrine and dogma. “Doctrine” means the current policy of a religion and it’s interpretations of religious writings. Doctrines aren’t rigid; they can change under certain circumstances. An example of doctrine is that we all know that God said not to kill, but most churches have established a doctrine that says, “killing in war doesn’t count”. Different doctrines are the reasons that there are branches of Christianity. You can also say different doctrines differentiate denominations, but that’s just too many “D” words. “Dogma” is more specific than doctrine, it’s the set of principles that are central to a specific faith, are

identified as true and can't be disputed at least not until we get more revelation from God. Dogma is a word that is viewed a bit more negatively than doctrine and I think that's because socially we value mental flexibility. When people are said to be dogmatic, it means they are inflexible in their opinions, and potentially their strong opinion doesn't have much fact in it. This may be a bit unfair, as there are certain issues that you get into to in religion that you either believe or you don't, and they are the marks of the religion. For instance, you don't have to believe that Jesus's mother Mary was a virgin to be a Christian, but you do have to believe that he was the Messiah promised by God in the Old Testament. If you don't believe he was the savior, then he lied. What he said and did in his ministry isn't true. It makes Jesus just another man, and that is not worthy of a religious belief. And so if you hold the belief that Jesus was just a man, you aren't a traditional Christian. Some people just don't believe or don't believe yet. Saying the words, "You aren't a Christian" really packs a wallop to me and many other people. This phrase has been used not to confirm a person's belief system as in, "You aren't a Christian, you are a Buddhist." Or "You aren't a Christian, you are an agnostic." It has been used as a weapon by Christians against people who identify as Christian but who don't hold the same doctrines. We will come back to this shortly.

An apologist understands the doubt for their religion, then proceeds to try to convince their audience of their views. So we will now enter into the views I have, and my attempt to convince you of them, even if you are still skeptical.

Many of the explanations that I have found from the 1700's are some of the best and most interesting to me. I think that's probably because once you even get into the 1800's you start getting into political fights that continue to this day. I'm not interested in those fights, but here's the bottom line to me; many modern day Christians have overall decided to die on the hill of specific issues and all of these issues are doctrine, not dogma. Some of these current issues are abortion, homosexuality, same sex marriage and the right to bear arms. Remember the "You aren't a Christian" comment that I said we'd get back to? Christians who refuse to decide their faith based on these issues are being bullied at this time. Denominations are splitting over them. And I'm going to throw down here for probably the first and last time on these specific topics. Jesus did not say one damned thing about any one of those issues. So drop it now and if you are a Christian, start working on what he did say a ton about, which was love and forgiveness and the elimination of hypocrisy. And ultimately, taking care of one another no matter who you are or who "they" are. Rant over.

So the first piece of interesting philosophy from the 1700's is Pascal's Wager. Pascal was a mathematician and physicist as well as a philosopher. His "wager" is about the existence of God, and his position is that we bet with our lives. Pascal's Wager uses the following logic, and in his time, it was groundbreaking:

1. God is, or God is not. Reason cannot decide between the two alternatives.
2. A Game is being played... where heads or tails will turn up.
3. You must wager (it is not optional).
4. Weigh the gain and the loss in your bets. Estimate these two chances. If you wager that God is, you gain everything; if you are wrong, you lose nothing. If you wager that God is not, then if you are right, you don't gain anything, and if you are wrong, you lose everything.
5. Pascal says, "Wager, then, without hesitation that He is. (...) There is here an infinity of an infinitely happy life to gain.
6. Understand that some cannot believe. They should then 'at least learn that they have an inability to believe...' and should set about the process then to convince' themselves that they have made the right bet.

From this point forward, we have to get off the fence and go with the wager that God is. Now since God is, what do you know about what has he ever said to us? Lots of people have been raised in the church and know the basics, but I'm going to start with the basics because although I had gone to church, I didn't know this stuff. My church didn't really impress upon us the need or benefit of the bible. They did like pithy sayings and those calendars that had a little quote to guide your day like "Let Go and Let God". It worked for a while.

The bible is the compilation of the communication of God to humans. I used to basically say it like, "The Bible?". I know that it may be misunderstood, and that there might be other things he said that aren't included, but for me, arguing about this was really ridiculous because I didn't have a clue about what had been said. That doesn't mean I didn't enter the argument. Suffice to say, now that I've read it a couple times, there's a massive amount of good stuff in the bible.

The word testament means "covenant", and a covenant is a legal agreement or contract between two parties. So both the old testament and the new testament are covenants or contracts given by God to humans. I'll use the term testament and covenant interchangeably. Both the new testament and the old testament identify how God will act, and how we are supposed to act both to each other and to him. God doesn't break his covenant, but humans do for sure. I didn't even know that I was required to act in certain ways to be in God's favor until a couple of years ago. My upbringing had focused very much on being a good person and being non-judgement of other people but I never knew that I was required to do certain things and act in certain ways. In fact, I thought that God should be completely non-judgmental to me. If I said something was okay, God would agree with me. To say the least, I operated in a world that rejected a hierarchy that had anyone, even God above me, but I did see certain people as below me. Now I realize that I had made myself not like God, but God. And sometimes I still do, but I now know that is wrong. There is a standard set for me, and I don't get to move the goal posts because I feel like it. I am beneath God, and stand shoulder to shoulder with every other human. None of us are a speck better than the other in God's eyes. He loves us all equally.

Back to the bible. The old covenant was in place from the beginning of time until the time of Jesus, and the old covenant always identified that there would be a new covenant in the future, and that the new covenant would be better. God identified many times through prophets that he would send a messenger who the people should look for. He gave information about what characteristics and qualities the messiah would have, and directions to not accept a person who did not have all the characteristics and qualities. The old covenant was about rules, and laws and those rules and laws came through prophets. The prophets spoke to specific people that God chose to carry his message to the world, the Jewish people. They were singled out as special, and so to be specific, the bible is a record of God's communications to his chosen people and it's called scripture. Ultimately, the old covenant involved more than 600 laws and they became an impossible burden to the people. No one could keep all of the laws. It was impossible. But many of the leaders in the Jewish communities, instead of setting the rules as being guidelines to attempt to follow, acted as if they did follow every rule. They wanted to be seen as perfect and to look down on those people who weren't perfect. There was a lot of hypocrisy as well as untruth to their presentation, and they profited financially and in power from that presentation. God had a history in the old testament of getting pretty angry. He had some pretty harsh punishments and even though he didn't really send lightning bolts, he did kill people on the spot for their breaking the laws sometimes. All of the angry punishment occurs in the old testament. It was the terms of the contract, you follow the rules, I'll treat you well. You break the rules, you get punished. That's not all that was in the old testament. There are stories that beautifully relate situations that are interesting

and instructional. There is a beauty and majesty that is contained in the old testament that is unlike any other book I have read.

The new testament begins with Jesus. He was God in human form, and he brought the new information with him. That was his ministry and its called, the gospel, or the good news. It contains the information about how God has agreed to treat people now, which will not be based upon laws and rules, but on god's grace. It doesn't mean that we don't have instructions for how we are to act, it means that if we break the rules, but are trying to keep them, god will forgive us. He will help us and love us as his children. There is a lot more than that in the gospel, much more than we can go into here, but we will go into it. Just understand that there are a lot of things that will be spelled out, and some of them will require not blind faith, but system 2 thinking because they involve things like the concept of a paradox where two things that seem contradictory are true.

I am really looking forward to going through the biblical information that was taught to me by the Holy Spirit. This podcast's teachings won't contain much information about the Old Testament, not because it's not important, but because I have a specific agenda to get you to the communication with the Holy Spirit. The biblical content will surround the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John as well as the implications of those teachings. These books recount the life of Jesus while he was on the earth. He lived the pattern we are supposed to follow. Trust me, we will get into it all, grace, forgiveness, evil, temptation and wealth! We will find information for ourselves but we will always know that the Holy Spirit will be working in each person's life to help them discern what they need to know and to unveil new truths to them. I'm honestly excited to get into the material and share the Matthew Henry Commentary as well as information from my teacher Gary Carpenter. But we won't start that in the next episode. The next episode will contain all of the workbook practices for the Daily Practice. It's time for you to begin getting to the practices that will help you hear God through the voice of the Holy Spirit. But after that will be the beginning of the biblical information, starting with the book of Matthew. We will read the first ten chapters together then begin the explanation in the episode afterwards. So our next episode covers the Daily Practice Workbook, the following week begins the core material in Matthew chapters 1-10, and then the third week's episode begins the explanation of what the material means. I wish I could give all of this to you in one setting, but it's just not possible. If you want to go ahead into the material, please do! The instructions for the Daily Practice are already on the website, and you can find links to copies of the book of Matthew on the internet for free there too. I'll be using the NIV or the New International Version of the bible for the podcast. It's pretty easy to understand. If you want to get into the commentary, begin to read the complete Matthew Henry Commentary from the 1700's, which is also free. The links are in these show notes and other places on the website

In closing, its my great honor and pleasure to have you as a listener. I hope you are enjoying hearing this as much as I am enjoying putting it together for you. You are loved by God and he promises that if you ask, he will answer. Look for him, and you will find him. He will not hide from you. He loves you and wants you for his child. He is ready, willing, and able to take care of you and to help you in your life's purpose. It's all promised in the New Testament, the specific covenant of grace.

I'm Juliet Mee, and this is Working With the Voice.