

How God Speaks to Ordinary People

Selected Scripture

Series: Ancient Paths to Intimacy With God - Part 2

*They devoted themselves to the **apostles' teaching** and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.*

Acts 2:42 (NIV)

I. As Jesus spoke to the early disciples – so now the Spirit speaks to us through the Scriptures.

⁹However, as it is written: “No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him”—¹⁰but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit.

The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. ¹¹For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man's spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. ¹²We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. ¹³This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. ¹⁴The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵The spiritual man makes judgments about all things, but he himself is not subject to any man's judgment:

¹⁶“For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

1 Corinthians 2:9-16 (NIV)

FOLLOWING THE ANCIENT PATH OF THE HOLY WRITINGS

II. God's Word is Living and Reveals Jesus to Us.

¹²*For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.*

Hebrews 4:12 (NIV)

¹*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning.*

John 1:1-2 (NIV)

¹⁴*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

John 1:14 (NIV)

III. We Must Come in Earnest, if We are to Hear His Voice.

¹*My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you,
²turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding,
³and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding,
⁴and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure,
⁵then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God.*

Proverbs 2:1-5 (NIV)

BUT HOW?

IV. Three Ways to Come to God's Word.

- **As a love letter – “To Cherish”**

¹⁶*When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart's delight, for I bear your name, O LORD God Almighty.*

Jeremiah 15:16 (NIV)

- **As an instruction manual – “To Master”**

¹⁶*All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NIV)

- **As the wisdom of the ages – “To Ponder”**

⁸Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.

Joshua 1:8 (NIV)

Conclusion – Three “Time-Honored” Ways to Hear God’s Voice

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

A Promise for the Ages

