

“How God Speaks to Us”

Exodus 31:18

Sunday, April 14, 2024

Introduction: In the Old Testament especially, we read that God spoke directly to people.

- In the Bible, we see that God spoke directly with Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden (Genesis 3:9).
- God spoke directly to Abraham (Genesis 12:1-4), and Moses (book of Exodus).
- God spoke to Joshua (Joshua 1:1), Samuel (1 Samuel chapter 3), Isaiah (Isaiah chapter 6), Jeremaih (Jeremiah chapter 1), Jonah (Jonah chapter 1), Philip/Eunuch (Acts chapter 8), and Saul of Tarsus (Acts chapter 9).
- God spoke to His children by direct revelation, dreams, and visions.
- God spoke to His children through the prophets.

But this was thousands of years ago. We read this in the Bible and think God does not speak to people today. This is incorrect thinking. Today, God uses circumstances, people, and various other ways to speak to us. Sometimes God will speak to us with a Rhema—a quickened utterance from God’s Word. The Greek words Logos and Rehema are both translated in our English Bibles as “word.” Logos refers to the Bible as a whole. Rema refers to a specific word from the Word. Matthew 4:4, Romans 10:17 and Ephesians 6:17 is the Greek word Rehema but translated Word.

But God’s primary way to communicate with us is through His written Word, the Bible. God has always placed great value on the written Word.

Text: Exodus 31:18

Application: We can have confidence in the Bible because the when the Bible speaks, God speaks (2 timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21).

- The psalmist stressed the importance of God's Word (Psalm 119:105).
- The apostle Paul referred to the Bible as a weapon to be used in spiritual battle (Ephesians 6:17).

Application: Listening to God is essential to walking with God. God is not silent. God speaks to us individually. The more we listen to God the better we will walk with God.

Illustration: One reason people do not hear God speak to them is because they are better talkers than listeners. This is true for most of us. We talk more than we listen. It is true with God. God tells us to talk to Him and promises us that He will talk to us.

“Call to Me and I will answer you, and I will show you great and mighty things, which you do not know” (Jeremiah 33:3).

Application: There is a connection between the amount of time you talk to God each day and the amount of time you hear from God each day.

Conclusion: When the Bible speaks, God speaks. There are six questions Adrain Rogers gave years ago that you can ask when you read your Bible that will help you hear God speak.

1. Is there a promise to claim?
2. Is there a lesson to learn?
3. Is there a blessing to enjoy?
4. Is there a command to obey?
5. Is there a sin to avoid?
6. Is there a new thought to carry with me?

Let's use Isaiah 26:3 and see how this works.

Invitation: What is God saying to you this morning?