

EXPERIENCING GOD: Listening to God

Part 2

Healthy relationships excel at communicating.
They are active in both sending and receiving messages.

**Take the time and trouble
to keep yourselves spiritually fit.**

1 Timothy 4:7b Phillips

WE LISTEN TO GOD THROUGH . . .

1. CREATION

2. PRAYER

3. THE BIBLE

Everything God does he does through his word . . . he creates through his word, he redeems through his word, he rules through his word.

Dallas Willard

Words have a spiritual nature about them.
They are a force that is not material at all.

"It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life."

John 6:63

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

John 1:1-2

The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.

Hebrews 1:3

The bible is one of the results of God speaking. It is the written word of God.

The written word of God is the finite revelation of God, but God speaks outside of the Bible as he exercises his power over the universe. The

Bible is God's sufficient written revelation for us. But the Bible is not Jesus Christ who is the Word of God in flesh. The Bible is the unique, infallible, written word of God, but it is not the only word of God.

For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.

Hebrews 4:12 NLT

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

2 Timothy 3:15-16 NIV

Are you listening to God personally speak to you through the Bible?

4. WHISPERS

Whispers are the voice of God speaking personally to you.

Be cautious about the notion that God's whispers are. . .

- Minute by Minute
- Only Found in the Bible
- About Whatever Comes True In My Life

HOW DOES GOD WHISPER?

- We hear the whispers of God in the character of Christ that is being formed in us. (1 Corinthians 2:16 - **But we have the mind of Christ.**)
- We hear the whispers of God if he speaks to us directly. (John 10:27 - **My sheep hear my voice.**)
- We hear the whispers of God through the people of God as they speak into our life (teaching, songs, counsel, stories, etc.).
- We hear the whispers of God in the circumstances of life as God closes doors and opens them and so on. (1 Corinthians 16:9)

HOW CAN WE KNOW IT IS THE WHISPER OF GOD?

- If it contradicts the Bible it is not from God.
- If wise and godly people say it is not from God it may not be from God. (1 Corinthians 14:29)
- Be cautious. We need to learn to listen to God's whisper.

Are you learning to listen to the whispers of God?