

A Simple Guide to Experience Miracles

Instruction and Inspiration for Living Supernaturally in Christ

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One final story of a miraculous healing:

Breaking the Silence, *Focus on the Family Broadcast* (1994)

Chapter 7 – Hearing the Supernatural Voice of God

“Why is it that when we talk to God we’re said to be praying but when God talks to us, we’re schizophrenic?” ~ Lily Tomlin (*quoted on p. 147*)

“The vast majority of Bible-believing Christians around the world do believe that, in addition to the Bible, God has specifically spoken to or guided them in one way or another.” (*p. 147*)

The inspired, inerrant Word of God—the Bible—is the ultimate standard for any alleged word from God.

“It provides us with the ultimate grounds for theology, doctrine, biblical ethics, and other matters.... One way to learn how to recognize God’s speaking is to read, study, and sit under the teaching of the Bible.” (*p. 148*)

There are a number of reasons God speaks to us personally.

- “God speaks to us to sustain an intimate, conversational **relationship** with us (Isaiah 58.9-11).
- He may speak to **correct** wrong thinking or actions (Philippians 3.15)
- Or to apply the words of Scripture to our specific **life situations** (1 Cor. 2.13-14).
- He also speaks to provide **encouragement** and edification (1 Cor. 14.3)
- And to give us needed **guidance** (Psalm 143.10; John 10.3-4, 16, 27) (*p. 148*)

“We don’t have to be 100 percent certain God was the one speaking before we should accept that he was. If we are, for example, 70 percent certain we heard from the Lord, that’s not a bad percentage. Of course, the less certain one is about a biblical interpretation or a case of divine speaking, the less strongly we should act on our belief.” (*p. 150*)

Six Ways God Speaks to Us Extrabiblically

1. God Speaks through Impressions

“It can be a sudden urge to do something, or perhaps a nudge, a prompting, or a sense that God is directing us in a specific way. It may be an intuitive awareness of God’s presence and direction.” (p. 151)

[read story pp. 152-153]

2. God Speaks through Thoughts and Feelings

“We read in Nehemiah 2.12 that after arriving in Jerusalem, Nehemiah arose together with a few other men, but he refrained from telling anyone “what my God had put in my heart to do.” (p. 153)

“Besides a series of thoughts, sometimes God speaks to us by causing a bodily sensation in our bodies and, subsequently, giving us an impression of what it means.” (p. 159)

3. God Speaks through Prophecy, Word of Knowledge, and Word of Wisdom

[read last paragraph on p. 160]

[read story pp. 164-165]

4. God Speaks through Dreams and Visions

“I have no doubt that many, perhaps most, dreams are natural events. And I believe much can be learned about ourselves from analyzing our dreams in a psychological manner. But I am not willing to cede this entire area of life to psychologists and naturalists.... Clearly some dreams are visions *are* from God, and as believers we need to pay closer attention to them and not dismiss out of hand the possibility that on a given occasion, God may be speaking to us.” (p. 169)

5. God Speaks through Angelic Visitations

6. God Speaks through Life Circumstances

A Bible Study on Hearing God's Voice - 1 Samuel 3.1-10

I. Consecrate yourself to the Lord – v. 1

Becoming a Christian is like a marriage commitment

In what ways have you consecrated yourself (set yourself apart) for the Lord?

How could you do so to a greater degree? What might you be willing to commit to beginning today?

II. Place yourself in the Lord's Presence – vv. 2-3

Literally - Physical surroundings

Though your Time & Attention (*especially in prayer*)

By reading Scripture

When, where or with whom have you felt most in the Lord's presence? What were you doing at the time?

What is your soul currently feeding on (mind – will – emotions)?

III. Seek Guidance – vv. 4-9

None of us have perfect judgment

Who has been the voice of God for you in your life? Who has given you the truest counsel?

IV. Be open - to hear and obey – v. 10

Expect God to speak to you

Be completely obedient

Can you think of an instance where you were obedient to the Lord in a very small thing, and that proved to be an unexpected blessing? How about in a very significant thing?