

# EXPERIENCING GOD

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## “God Speaks”

Reality #4 “God speaks by the Holy Spirit through the Bible, prayer, circumstances, and the church to reveal Himself, His purposes, and His ways.”

(1) God Speaks in different ways.

### **Hebrews 1:1**

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets.

### **4 Important truths characterize each instance when God spoke in the Old Testament**

1 – When God spoke, the experience was usually unique to that individual.

2 – When God spoke, the person was sure God was speaking.

3 – When God spoke, the person knew what God said.

4 – When God spoke, that was an encounter with God.

(2) God Speaks by the Holy Spirit

### **John 14:8-9**

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father?’”

Truth is NEVER discovered it is ALWAYS revealed

(3) God Speaks Through the Bible

### **1 Corinthians 2:14-15**

The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one.

Understanding spiritual truth does not lead you to an encounter with God; **It is the encounter with God.**

(4) God Speaks Through Prayer

What God says in prayer is far more important than what you say

**Romans 8:26-27**

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

(5) God Speaks Through Circumstances

(6) God Speaks Through the Church

**Ephesians 4:15-16**

Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

## Discussion Questions

1. What is your biggest take-away from today's lesson or this week's study?
2. In what ways have you experienced God's voice in the past?
3. How have you trusted in methods rather than in a Person, expecting God to speak only in certain ways?
4. What time do you regularly set aside to listen to God through His Word?
5. Have you ever been aware of God changing you through prayer? Explain.
6. When has God changed the direction of your life through a seemingly ordinary circumstance?
7. When has God seemed silent? What did God reveal during this silence?

## Next week's Memory Verse

**Hebrews 11:6**

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.