

# Experiencing God – God Speaks, Part 1

Ben Bidelspach – March 10, 2013

*He who belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God. (John 8:47)*

In the Old Testament, God spoke through prophets.

*“In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways.” (Hebrews 1:1)*

Four important factors

1. When God spoke, it 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 the **encounter** with God.

**How** God spoke is not the most important factor, but rather **that** He spoke.

In the Gospels, God spoke through **His Son - Jesus**.

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. (John 1:1, 14)*

In Acts, and to the present, God speaks through the **Holy Spirit**.

*“You yourselves are God’s temple and...God’s Spirit lives in you.” (1 Corinthians 3:16) “Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God.” (1 Corinthians 6:19)*

When He speaks...

1. God reveals **Himself**. He reveals His name, nature and character.  
Why? To increase **faith** that leads to **action**.
2. God reveals **His purpose**.  
Why? So you can **join Him** in what **He plans to do**.
3. God reveals **His ways**.  
Why? They are the **only way** to accomplish **His purposes**.

Are you having a hard time hearing God? Check your relationship.

- Do you have any **wrong patterns**?
- Are you looking for **specific directions**?
- Are you immediately **obedient**?

Are you willing to put your plans and desires aside, and allow God to use you, His way, to accomplish His will?