

Listening to God

Read [Psalm 46:1-10](#)

LESSON 3

HOW GOD HAS SPOKEN

Through the ages, God has used a variety of ways to speak to His people. He apparently talked face-to-face on a daily basis with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, meeting them in the cool of the day ([Genesis 3:8](#)).

[Genesis 3:8 \(NASB\)](#)

⁸“They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.”

After Adam and Eve disobeyed God and were expelled from the Garden, God turned to other forms of communication with His beloved creation.

There are at least eight ways in which God spoke to His people in Bible times:

1. Direct revelation
2. Dreams
3. Written words
4. Prophets
5. Circumstances
6. Angels
7. Jesus Christ
8. The Holy Spirit

Dreams and Visions

God has also spoken to people through dreams and visions. We have a number of examples in the Bible.

Joseph, the eleventh son of Jacob, had two notable dreams. In one, he saw himself and his brothers binding sheaves in a field of wheat, and all of the sheaves bowed down to Joseph's sheaf. In the other dream, the sun, moon, and eleven stars bowed down to Joseph. Those were prophetic dreams about what was to happen later in Joseph's life.

Daniel had visions in which God revealed to him the destiny of the world and the empires that were to come.

Joseph, the husband of Mary, had two remarkable dreams—one in which he felt convinced that he should take Mary to be his wife, and the other in which he saw God's direction to take Mary and Jesus to Egypt.

