

# 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)**

**<sup>8</sup>“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

## Angelic Messages

The word *angel* means “**messenger from God.**” God spoke through an angel to the parents of Samson, to Mary, to Peter, and to a number of other people in the Bible.

God sends angels at His will and for His purposes. We are not to seek or pray for angelic encounters. Many people today have been duped into thinking that they can call angels or conjure them up. They may be conjuring spirits all right, but let me assure you, the visages that appear to them are not God’s angels. God’s angels come to people uninvited, unannounced, and unexpectedly. They usually are so awesome in form that their first words are, “**Fear not.**” They deliver their messages—which are always very direct and specific—and then leave. They do not engage in small talk, develop a friendship with a human being, or give ongoing guidance and help.

Angels appear to men and women throughout Scripture, but if you closely analyze their appearances, they appear in nearly all instances to people who are isolated from

