



We are Glad you have come to Worship today!

Today's Message:

"God Speaks to Us- Part 1"

How can I hear God's speaking to me?

1. First, we must understand that he is incomprehensible. *Job 11:7,*

"Can you fathom the mysteries of God? Can you probe the limits of the Almighty?"

Psalm 90:1-12, "Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations. ² Before the mountains were brought forth, Or ever You had formed the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You *are* God.

2. God has never ever changed. He is, was and always will be unchanged.

³ You turn man to destruction, And say, "Return, O children of men." ⁴ For a thousand years in Your sight *Are* like yesterday when it is past, And *like* a watch in the night. ⁵ You carry them away *like* a flood; *They are* like a sleep. In the morning they are like grass *which* grows up: ⁶ In the morning it flourishes and grows up; In the evening it is cut down and withers.

3. How is it that our lives are like grass? How does this affect the way we hear God?

⁷ For we have been consumed by Your anger, And by Your wrath we are terrified. ⁸ You have set our iniquities before You, Our secret *sins* in the light of Your countenance. ⁹ For all our days have passed away in Your wrath; We finish our years like a sigh. ¹⁰ The days of our lives *are* seventy years; And if by reason of strength *they are* eighty years, Yet their boast *is* only labor and sorrow; For it is soon cut off, and we fly away. ¹¹ Who knows the power of Your anger? For as the fear of You, *so is* Your wrath.

¹² So teach *us* to number our days, That we may gain a heart of wisdom.

4. How do our lives change when we number our days?

A conversation between God and Gideon...

Judges 6:11-18 & 36-40, "¹¹ Now the Angel of the LORD came and sat under the terebinth tree which *was* in Ophrah, which *belonged* to Joash the Abiezrite, while his son Gideon threshed wheat in the winepress, in order to hide *it* from the Midianites. ¹² And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him, and said to him, "The LORD *is* with you, you mighty man of valor!"

¹³ Gideon said to Him, "O my lord, if the LORD *is* with us, why then has all this happened to us? And where *are* all His miracles which our fathers told us about, saying, 'Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt?' But now the LORD has forsaken us and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites." ¹⁴ **Then the LORD turned to him and said,** "Go in this might of yours, and you shall save Israel from the hand of the Midianites. Have I not sent you?"

¹⁵ So he said to Him, "O my Lord, how can I save Israel? Indeed my clan *is* the weakest in Manasseh, and I *am* the least in my father's house."

¹⁶ And the LORD said to him, "Surely I will be with you, and you shall defeat the Midianites as one man."

5. Is it O.K. to bargain with God for proof that He wants us to do something or go in a certain direction?

¹⁷ Then he said to Him, "If now I have found favor in Your sight, then show me a sign that it is You who talk with me. ¹⁸ Do not depart from here, I pray, until I come to You and bring out my offering and set *it* before You."

And He said, "I will wait until you come back." ...36-40 ³⁶ So Gideon said to God, "If You will save Israel by my hand as You have said— ³⁷ look, I shall put a fleece of wool on the threshing floor; if there is dew on the fleece only, and *it is* dry on all the ground, then I shall know that You will save Israel by my hand, as You have said."

³⁸ And it was so. When he rose early the next morning and squeezed the fleece together, he wrung the dew out of the fleece, a bowlful of water.

6. Just like we need confirmation, Gideon did too...

³⁹ Then Gideon said to God, "Do not be angry with me, but let me speak just once more: Let me test, I pray, just once more with the fleece; let it now be dry only on the fleece, but on all the ground let there be dew."

⁴⁰ And God did so that night. It was dry on the fleece only, but there was dew on all the ground."

Notice: God did not become angry in His conversation with Gideon.

Jeremiah 33:3, "Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know."

John 16:7-8, "Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. **8** And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment..."

I Corinthians 2:9-12, "But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man, The things which God has prepared for those who love Him."

¹⁰ But God has revealed *them* to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. ¹¹ For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.

¹² Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God."

7. The Holy Spirit speaks to our heart and helps us understand the beauty of salvation.

Notice the sequence of events of how God Speaks:

- I **READ** God's Word, the Bible.
- The spirit of truth takes God's Word and **REVEALS** truth.
- I **ADJUST** my life to God's truth.
- I **OBEY** God.

Then...God works in and through me to accomplish His purposes.

How do we apply this message to us today?