

Twelve Ways God Speaks: #1) Creation

Twelve Ways God Speaks: #2) Wisdom

Twelve Ways God Speaks: #3) Your Conscience

Twelve Ways God Speaks: #4) Other People

Twelve Ways God Speaks: #5) The Word of God

Twelve Ways God Speaks: #6) The Inner Voice of the Holy Spirit

- Psalm 29:3-9 – 3 The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord thunders over the mighty waters. 4 The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is majestic. 5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars; the Lord breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon. 6 He makes Lebanon leap like a calf, Sirion like a young wild ox. 7 The voice of the Lord strikes with flashes of lightning. 8 The voice of the Lord shakes the desert; the Lord shakes the Desert of Kadesh. 9 The voice of the Lord twists the oaks and strips the forests bare. And in his temple all cry, “Glory!”
- Sometimes He Speaks Without Words
 - Paul is Blocked from Asia and Bithynia (Acts 16:6-9)
 - At one point, they want to preach in the next province over, Asia, but they were “kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province” (vs. 6), so then they try to preach in Bithynia, but “the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to” (vs. 7)
 - The Holy Spirit led Paul this way a lot...
 - In Acts 17, Paul is in Athens, and he sees all the idols. It says he was “greatly distressed,” so he preached and a church was planted
 - In Acts 20, he’s on his way back to Jerusalem and he says the Holy Spirit is “compelling” him to go, even though he knows hardship awaits
 - In Acts 27, he’s aboard the prison ship to Rome and he tells everyone that he “can see,” he perceives, he understands, that disaster awaits
- Sometimes He Speaks with Words
 - Philip Takes a Walk on a Desert Road (Acts 8:26-29)
 - Vs. 29 – The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.”
 - Sometimes it’s a gentle nudging, a sensation, a feeling, and sometimes it’s a clear, quiet voice in your heart like Philip heard – “Go to that chariot and stay near it.”
 - Peter Goes to Cornelius (Acts 10:19-23)
 - Vs. 19-20 – 19 While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, “Simon, three men are looking for you. 20 So get up and go downstairs. Do not hesitate to go with them, for I have sent them.”
 - God Calls Paul and Barnabas (Acts 13:1-3)
 - Acts 13:2 – While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.”
- This Should be Normal
 - John 14:26 says that the Holy Spirit will “teach [us] all things and will remind [us] of everything [Jesus] said”
 - John 16:13 says that the Holy Spirit will “guide [us] into all the truth” and “tell [us] what is yet to come”
 - 1 Corinthians 2:10-12 – 10 these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. 11 For who knows a person’s thoughts except

their own spirit within them? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. 12 What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us.

▪ In vs. 16, he says that “we have the mind of Christ” so we can know what He is thinking

- A Caution: Not All You Feel is God
 - Jeremiah 17:9 says that “the heart is deceitful above all things.”
 - Proverbs 14:12 says that “there is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.”
- Why Does He Speak to Us in Our Hearts?
 - Not just to amuse Himself or to fill your head with interesting information, but to lead you to follow Him
 - Romans 8:14 – For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.
 - Jesus said that His sheep hear His voice and follow Him (John 10:27)
 - Matthew 4:1 – Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the Wilderness to be tempted by the Devil
 - “led” = anagó = In reference to ships, it means “to launch”... “to sail away”...
 - Isaiah 42:16 – I will lead the blind by ways they have not known, along unfamiliar paths I will guide them; I will turn the darkness into light before them and make the rough places smooth. These are the things I will do; I will not forsake them.
- Acts 20:22-24 – 22 And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there. 23 I only know that in every city the Holy Spirit warns me that prison and hardships are facing me. 24 However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me – the task of testifying to the good news of God’s grace.
 - “compelled” = deo = literally means to be tied up, chained, bound
 - Before he met Jesus, Paul was on his way to Damascus, carrying letters from the High Priest authorizing him to find Christians and deliver them “bound” to Jerusalem, to “compel” them to come (Acts 9:2)... and now the Holy Spirit is delivering Paul bound to Jerusalem, compelling him to come
 - People try to stop Paul from going, because they care about him, but he responds “Why are you weeping and breaking my heart? I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.” (Acts 21:13)
 - How could Paul willingly and happily suffer imprisonment and even death for the sake of the Gospel? How could he face these hardships unafraid?
 - Because he was already compelled by the Holy Spirit, already bound by God, so the chains of man meant nothing to him.