

Communicating with God

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I. Introduction.

- A. We see God as all-powerful yet simultaneously as somewhat incapable of communicating with us.
- B. God is fully capable of communicating with us and does so masterfully.

II. Communication is two-way.

- A. Adam and God dialogue with each other. (Genesis 3)
- B. Moses was to communicate with God by building the tabernacle. (Exodus 25:22)
 - 1. Communion is the alternating impact of two personalities that produces a mutual pleasant effect.
 - 2. Both parties are participating with full attention and enthusiasm.
- C. God communicated with Job.
- D. In the Old Testament God spoke verbally, through dreams, and through other ways. In this day, He speaks to us primarily through the written Word.
 - 1. It contains all that we need to know about God and our relationship with Him.
 - 2. At the great white throne judgment God will have a representative from every age and will ask them why they are there. What hypothetical excuses will arise from these men? The circumstances. The Devil. The lack of clarity of how to please God. The Bible taught otherwise.
 - 3. Everything practically we need to know is in the Bible.
 - 4. The thoughts of his hearts are for the generations. (Psalm 33:11)
 - 5. When God made sure that every incident that ever happened was recorded in the Bible that is one way He knew that the Bible was complete.
 - 6. God can communicate to us through Scripture out of context. A man pursuing a young lady was convinced by a text out of context that he was supposed to marry a young woman and he married her and now has a fine family.
 - 7. In communication with God there is no such thing as silence, for he who has heard His Word is right up to date.
- D. God can conceive a way to receive prayer from everyone at the same time and return an answer through the Word of God.

III. Practical implications.

A. Keep your heart, head, and feet perpendicular so that one doesn't get too far ahead. Communication with God involves all three - the mind, the emotions, and the will.

1. Your 24-hour day ought to begin the last few minutes before you go to sleep.
2. Ask God to communicate to you something that He wants to impress in your mind.
3. As soon as God has given you that, close your Bible and do not let anything else come in. Let the last word be God's word.
4. Let the last conscious thought move into your subconscious mind. (Proverbs 6:22)
 - a. God is trying to get us set up with a communication from Him as background music.
 - b. It is like the song that returns to our mind throughout the day.
5. We need to feed on the Word of God and study it to be intelligent Christians.
6. We need to memorize for skillfulness and meditate for fruit. (Psalm 1:33)
7. We need to apply the Word to be obedient Christians. (James 1:22)
 - a. Viewing the Bible is like viewing ourselves in a mirror.
 - b. There is always something that can use an adjustment in our lives.

B. We need to spend time communicating back to God.

1. The occupation of our hearts with God Himself with Worship and Adoration. (Psalm 29:2) How do we give glory to God? Psalm 45: rehearse in His presence how one feels and thinks about His Person and His work.
2. The occupation of our hearts with thanksgiving and praise. There are probably about ten times as many commands to praise Him as there are to ask Him for things.
3. The occupation of our hearts with needs. (Philippians 4:6-8)

C. Recall the last thing that God did to you that was very real. We need to have communion with Him about the things that are real with Him and are real to you.

D. God wants us to communicate with Him all day long. Do it before bed. Do it with the occupation of the heart. Communicate to Him about the spiritual battle.

1. In battle he communicates back to us. (Psalm 58:3)
2. Invariably God lays in our path a Christian and we are given opportunity to respond (Isaiah 58).

IV. Conclusion.

A. God gives us opportunity to communicate with Him through the mind in meditating, the emotions in communing with Him, and in the will in deciding in what direction our feet are to take to us. In every one of these situations God communicates back to us in our hearts on where to go.

B. God is a master communicator.

Application questions.

1. Summarize what the speaker says about how we are to speak to God and how He speaks to us.

2. Assess the speaker's theology. What did you agree with? What did you disagree with? Explain.

3. What role does talking with God play in your own life? How will you cultivate a life that is connected and continually related to Him?
