

The Word of God And The Bible

**Learning To Develop A Conversational
Relationship With God**

Where Have We Been?

- **What is the still, small voice of God?**
- **It is unremarkable, inconspicuous, unassuming**
- **God speaks to us by the Holy Spirit interacting with our mind, revealing God's character and thoughts to us**
- **Words have power! – Emotional and Spiritual**
- **This imparted power is referred to in John 15:7 “if you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish and it will be done for you.**

The Power of the word!

- **Lk.7:1-10 Centurion – a man of Faith in the power of a word! Vs.7 – say the word, and let my servant be healed!**
- **Plato spiritualized words by treating our thinking as an inner conversation the soul holds with itself to which Augustine added by saying “he who thinks speaks in his heart” – Matt.9:2-4 “scribes said to themselves”**
- **So, while the Bible is the written word of God, the word of God is not simply the Bible.**
- **We looked at 1Cor.2:9-16 Paul describes the Holy Spirit’s ministry to reveal the word of God to us!**

1Cor.2:9-16 -But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him” **these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit.** For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? **So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.** Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. **And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit,** interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. “For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” **But we have the mind of Christ.**

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- ²⁰ Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation of things. ²¹ For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, **but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. 2Pet.1:20-21**
- ¹⁵ Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation, just as our dear brother **Paul also wrote you with the wisdom that God gave him.** ¹⁶ He writes the same way in all his letters, speaking in them of these matters. His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do **the other Scriptures,** to their own destruction. 2Pet.3:15,16

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- It is the Living word of God – 1Pet.1:23 For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.;**
- Heb.4:12 -For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.**
- How is the Bible “ALIVE”?**
- The Bible is a finite, written record of the saving truth spoken by the infinite, living God, and it reliably fixes the boundaries of everything He will ever say to humankind.**
- It fixes boundaries in principles, not in the detailed communications that God may have with believers today.**

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- God has things to say to us that relate to our personal situation.**
- Dr. Tony Evans, Football, and the Work of the Holy Spirit**
- Football operates by an objective set of rules that govern how the game is to be played.**
- Each team has the freedom to play within those rules**
- The Holy Spirit is the quarter-back in our lives and He has the right to call plays based on the changing realities of life, always based on the unchanging word of God**
- Yes, God speaks to us personally today but always in line with the written word of God.**

The Word Of God And The Bible!

- 1. You can trust the Bible**
- 2. The Bible is relevant to all cultures in all times**
- 3. You should read the Bible**
- 4. You should know the Bible**
- 5. You should obey the Spirit as He directs you through the Bible**
- 6. You should submit your thoughts to the teachings of the Bible to determine if it is really of God or not.**