

the good portion

theuns pauw



Luke 10:38-42

38 Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. 39 And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. 40 But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." 41 But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, 42 but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."

A: How does God speak to us:

1) Through His Word

Ps 119:105

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

2 Tim 3:16-17

16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

2) Through people

Rom 10:13-14

13 For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." 14 How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?

Also: Prophecy, words of knowledge, and wisdom, speaking in tongues and interpretation of tongues

See 1 Cor 12

3) Through dreams and visions

Joel 2:28

"And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions.

Eg. Joseph (Genesis 37:5-7).

God spoke to him through dreams

And Paul (Acts 26:19)

Jesus appeared to him in a vision

4) Through nature

Eg. Abraham (Genesis 15:5).

God spoke to him and showed him the stars

5) His voice

Eg. Paul (Acts 26:14)

6) Spirit to spirit

Rom 8:16

The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

John 16:7-8

7 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 go, I will send him to you. 8 And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment:

7) Our conscience

Rom 2:15

They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them

A: How does God speak to us:

Summary...

- 1) Through His Word**
- 2) Through people**
- 3) Through dreams and visions**
- 4) Through nature**
- 5) His voice**
- 6) Spirit to spirit**
- 7) Our conscience**

B: How do we know that it's God that's speaking to us?

John 10:3-5

3 To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. 5 A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers."

John 16:13-14

13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. 14 He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

1 Thess 5:19-21

19 Do not quench the Spirit.

20 Do not despise prophecies,

21 but test everything; hold fast what is good.

Therefore: Jesus must be glorified, and it may not contradict the written Word of God!

1 Kings 19:11-12

- 11 And he said, "Go out and stand on the mount before the LORD." And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains and broke in pieces the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake.
- 12 And after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire the sound of a low whisper.

C: What do we do with God's word to us?

Heb 3:15

As it is said, "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion."

Mark 4:23-25

23 If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear."

24 And he said to them, "Pay attention to what you hear: with the measure you use, it will be measured to you, and still more will be added to you. 25 For to the one who has, more will be given, and from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away."

Matt 7:24-27

24 "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. 26 And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. 27 And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it."

D: Wait on the Lord:

Ps 62:1b

For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation.

Ps 25:5

Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.

Ps 27:14

Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!

D: Wait on the Lord:

Therefore wait:

- 1) Quietly
- 2) Patiently
- 3) Expectantly

To wait on God is not passive...

1) Meditate on the Word of God

Ps 1:2

but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

2) Worship the Lord

Acts 16:25

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them,