

## Experiencing God: “Reality #4: God Speaks Through...”

### Review:

- The hope for this series: **Stabilizing people to become mature in Christ.**
- **Reality #1:** God is Always Working! **Reality #2:** God pursues a continuing love relationship that is real and personal! **Reality #3:** God invites you to become involved with Him in His work!

### Reality #4: God Speaks Through...

#### 1. His Holy Spirit

- **1 Corinthians 3:16; Acts 2:38-39 (NLT)**
- The right question to ask is “**Are We Listening?**” Not “**Is God Speaking?**”
- **Prayer (Luke 5:16; Matthew 6; Luke 11 (NLT))**
- How often do you set aside time to pray?
- “*Fasting*”—creates a heightened sense of our connection with God.
- “*Worship*”—is prayer through melody.

#### 2. His Word (Hebrews 4:12; John 1:1-5,14 (NLT))

- His “*specific*” vs. “*general*” Will
- **Psalms 119:105; 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NLT)**

#### 3. Circumstances

- The Spirit’s Promptings in your life. **Remember, God will never ask you to do something that contradicts Himself, His character, or His Word!**

#### 4. His People...The Church

- “*Speak Lord, for your servant is listening.*”
- God uses people to deliver the Gospel and His teachings.

#### Things that distract us from hearing God in our culture:

- a. The noise of busyness in our lives.
  - i. **Psalms 46:10 (NLT)**
  - ii. Set up regular consistency in your life to be still before God!
- b. Habitual Sin.
  - i. The more we hold onto that willful sin; the quieter God becomes in our lives.
- c. Lack of Expectation.
  - i. If you don’t expect to hear from God; it won’t happen!

### Questions to ponder and discuss at home and in your life group:

#### Complimentary Passages: **Isaiah 55:8-11**

1. **What has God revealed about Himself, His purposes, and His ways?** (What is He like, what is He doing, and how does He go about doing it?)
2. **How do you regularly create time to listen to God—through His Word? In prayer? With other believers? How has silence been a part of hearing God for you?**
3. **How do you respond when you feel convicted about something while reading the Bible?**
4. **What seemingly ordinary circumstances could God be using to direct your life?**