



You were created for eternity – not time.



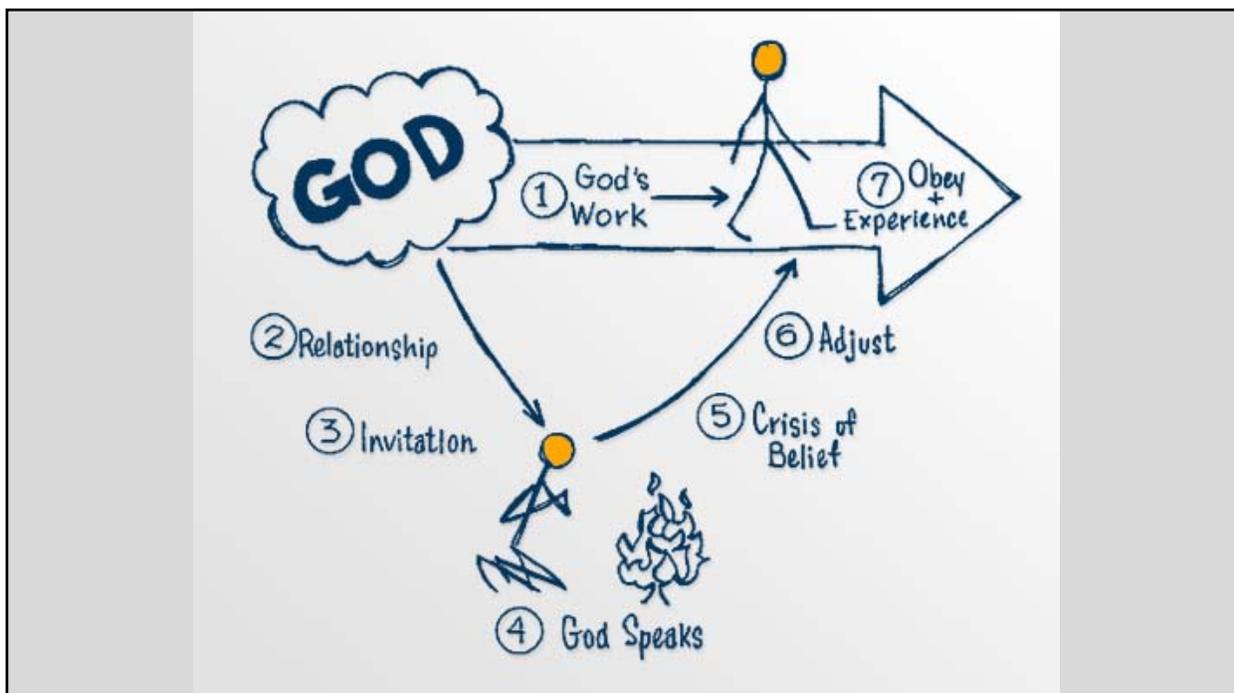
God is inviting you to be involved in God-sized tasks.



“... with God, *how* you do something is as important as *what* you do. It is possible to do the right thing in the wrong way or at the wrong time. ... Doing things God’s way is critical.”

“If a Christian doesn’t know when God is speaking, that person is in trouble at the core of his or her Christian life!”

Henry Blackaby, *Experiencing God*



Jn 8:47 He who is of God hears God's words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God."

Heb 1:1-2 God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ²has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;

1. God speaks to His people

The fact *that* God speaks to people is far more important than *how* He speaks!



2. When God speaks to His people:

- The way He communicates is unique to the individual
- The person is certain it is God

Jn 10:27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

- The person knows what God is saying
- That is the encounter with God

People often use these dubious ways of hearing God's voice because they seem easier than cultivating an intimate walk with God.

3. How “not to” recognize God’s voice:

- Asking for a miraculous sign

Mt 24:39 “An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it ...”

- Seeking for a formula
- “Name it and claim”
- Open and closed doors

4. How to recognize God’s voice:

- God speaks through His Word

2 Tim 3:16-17 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Eph 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;

“When we read a command in the Bible, whether we understand it or not, we ought to obey it. The Bible is not first and foremost a book to be explained, it is a book to be believed and obeyed. Don’t substitute human reasoning for obedience. God says, ‘For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts’ (Isaiah 55:8-9).”

Adrian Rogers

- **God speaks through His Spirit**

Jn 16:13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.

1 Cor 2:10 But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.

- God speaks through prayer

Phil 2:13 for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

Rom 8:26-27 Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

- God speaks through the church

Eph 4:15-16 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

Mt 18:17 ... And if he refuses to hear them, tell *it* to the church.

Acts 15

Js 5:14 Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.

- God speaks through circumstances

Prov 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; ⁶In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

- God speaks through people



“About the time we think we've got the whole picture in finite focus, an infinite hand quickly grabs the camera, changes lenses on us, points in another direction, and has us take an entirely different picture. Yet to our amazement, when everything is developed, we get the one thing we wanted all our lives through a process we would never have chosen. ‘I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life; I was given life, that I might enjoy all things.’”

Chuck Swindoll

Ex 5:22-23 So Moses returned to the Lord and said, "Lord, why have You brought trouble on this people? Why is it You have sent me? ²³For since I came to Pharaoh to speak in Your name, he has done evil to this people; neither have You delivered Your people at all."