

Deepening our Relationship with God

Day 4

“For I have given them the words that you gave me” John 17:8 (ESV)

Key Thought: God has given us His SPOKEN Word!

Speaking is a fundamental part of life. Speaking is an important part of life. Speaking is the primary way that humans communicate and relate with one another. We spend years of our lives speaking to others about ourselves and listening to others speak about themselves. Without speaking humanity would be extremely handicapped in their ability to relate with one another.

Can you imagine what it would be like to hear God speak? No, not the silent, mysterious voice we hear in our head, but God’s actual voice and words! I’m pretty sure it would be an unforgettable experience. It should not be a surprise that God does speak, He does have a voice, and He wants to use His spoken Word to relate with us . . .

In John 17:8 Jesus makes known that God is a speaking God. God gave “words” to Jesus Christ. God related with Jesus by speaking words to Him. He wasn’t silent. He communicated. We are given innumerable examples through the Bible of God speaking, but Genesis chapters 1 and 2 give us the clearest example of the power of God’s audible spoken words. What do we learn about God’s spoken word from Genesis 1 and 2?

When God speaks, IT HAPPENS (Gen 1:1, 3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 20, 24, 26). God speaks 10 times in the first chapter and whatever He says . . . happens! Before God spoke there was nothing and after God spoke there was something. Something came in the form of light, sky, water, land, plants, planets, living creatures, and finally humanity, man and woman. God’s ability to speak and create are evidence of His unlimited power.

When God speaks, it is GOOD (Gen 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25, 31). Whatever God speaks into existence with His unlimited knowledge and power is without mistake, perfect, and therefore good. When God created the universe, He said Himself it was “good.” When God spoke man and woman into existence He said they were “very good.” Everything God has spoken into existence is good. In all of life, if God says it, it is the very best option out of an infinite number of possibilities.

When God speaks to humanity, it is a BLESSING (Gen 1:28). God did not simply create all things and distance Himself from them, He desires to actively communicate and relate with His creation. God's first word directed toward humanity is a blessing. God speaks blessing over humanity with the unique privilege of multiplying, inhabiting the earth, and ruling over everything else He created. God's blessing of humanity communicates that we are the pinnacle of God's creation.

When God speaks to humanity, we must OBEY (Gen 2:16-17). Although humanity is the pinnacle of God's creation, we do not have the freedom to do whatever we want. God communicated to Adam and Eve a **boundary** to their freedom and **consequences** when those boundaries were crossed. God communicated the boundary to provide us with blessings for obedience and to protect us from consequences of disobedience. We will experience the greatest amount of good that God created us for when we obediently stay within His spoken design for all things!

God's spoken words are powerful! More powerful than we might ever think or imagine. God's spoken words make something out of nothing. God's spoken words put galaxies into orbit and atoms into motion. God's words define what is right and wrong. God's words bring life and death. Do you get the point? Here's the miracle, the same God who spoke all things into existence wants to speak to you . . . are you listening?

Questions to Ponder

1. Do you believe that God wants to speak to you personally?
2. If God were to sit down with you face to face, what do you think He would speak to you?

Possible Prayer Points

1. Thank God for wanting to speak, to communicate, and to relate with you through spoken word
2. Pray and ask God to speak personally to you

How do you think you should relate with God as a result of Him trying to relate to you in this way?