

# How to hear God speak



# We have a God that loves to communicate

- God is more willing to speak than we are to listen
- **Job 33:14-15 (NIRV)** <sup>14</sup> He speaks in one way and then another. But we do not even realize it.
- **Luke 8:17-18 (NIV)** <sup>17</sup> For there is nothing hidden that will not be disclosed, and nothing concealed that will not be known or brought out into the open. <sup>18</sup> Therefore consider carefully how you listen.



# Ways in which God speaks

- Before the fall - face to face
- After the fall a little bit trickier
  1. Abraham - Visions, dreams and via Angels (Gen 12-25)
  2. Moses hears a burning bush talk (Ex 3)
  3. Samuel hears a voice that keeps waking him up (1 Sam 3)
  4. Ezekiel has all sorts of strange experiences (Ez 1.15-21, 3.1, 5.1-4)
  5. Daniel has dreams and visions as well as a detached figure writing on a plaster wall (Dan 5)





# Ways in which God speaks

6. Mary, Jesus' mother, has an angelic visitation (Luk 1.26-28)

7. Wise men follow celestial bodies (Matt 2)

8. Saul (Paul) is enveloped by a brilliant white light and hears the voice of Jesus (Acts 9)

9. Peter sees a sheet full of food (Acts 10.11-12)

10. John gets the trip of a lifetime (Rev 4)

3 most important ways God speaks are missing



# Ways in which God speaks



The written Word of God



Prayer



The created Order

# 1. The written word of God

- Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path (Psalm 119.105)
- Example
- Ruth 1.16 - Where you go I will go



## 2. Prayer

- Jesus went aside to spend time with his Father
- No short cuts



### 3. Nature creation and everyday objects

- Jeremiah going down to the Potter's house
- Jer 18.6 O house of Israel can I not do with you as the potter does





# Prophecy - our encouragement

1. You can all prophesy one by one (1 Cor 14.31)
2. We live in a promised, prophecy-filled age (Joel 2.28-29 Acts 2.14-18, 32-33)
3. Prophecy is for every dimension of life: church, work, education, government
4. Prophecy is multifaceted. Forthtelling, (Ps 8.1-2) foretelling (Acts 21.10-11) inspired singing (1 Chron 25.1) etc.



# Prophecy - building up

- Eagerly desire the greater gifts (1 Cor 12.31)
- Eagerly desire the spiritual gifts especially that you may prophesy (1 Cor 14.1)
- Try to excel in gifts that build up the church (1 Cor 14.12)
- All of these must be done for the strengthening of the church (1 Cor 14.26)
- Be eager to prophesy (1 Cor 14.39)
- Those who prophesy speaks to the people for their strengthening, encouraging and comfort.



# The benefits of the prophesy



Inputting direction into the meeting



Bringing words of knowledge to individuals  
and the church



Releasing the congregation into faith and  
worship



Building up and encouraging the community  
of faith



Bringing words into the workplace and the  
community

# How it works

1. Revelation
  2. Interpretation
  3. Application
  4. Implementation
- Example from Bryn - Warm rain/cold rain/ disappointment/connection/harvest and reaping
  - Interpretation - Cold rain important - Coleraine
  - Disappointment - ending of a fellowship
  - Re-connecting and revival 100's coming to Christ



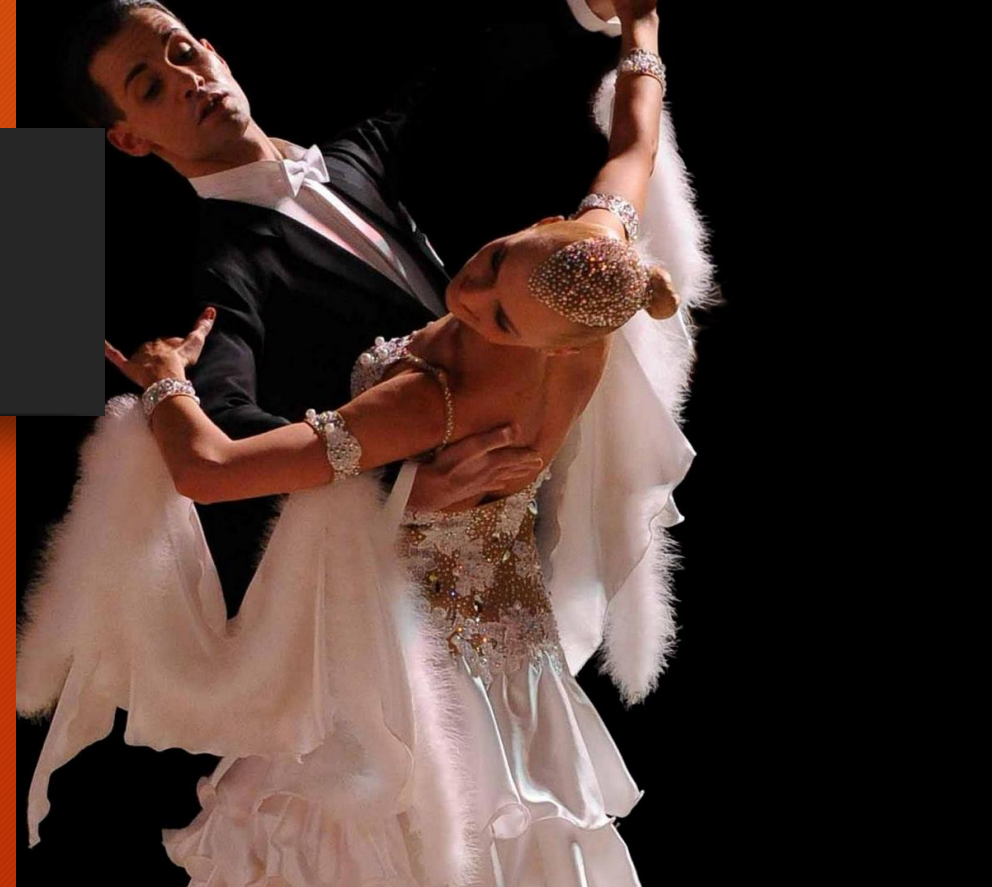
# Work place example

- Roger on the Pig Farm
- Bear the yoke in your youth (Lam 3.27)
- Be faithful in a little and you will be given more (Luke 16.10)



# Words of knowledge for healing

- Blue jumper
- Blue Danube
- Separation/Divorce
- Lady



# I saw - God says exercise

1. Look at the objects
2. Ask God to speak to you - be ready
3. It might be for an individual or the group (fellowship)
4. Ask yourself is it strengthening, encouraging or comforting
5. Ask God what it means
6. Steer clear of Mates, Dates and the sex of babies
7. Be bold and have a go
8. Be open to adjustment and growing in the gift

