

Before you read this, I would like you to take a minute to pray this prayer;  
“God, open my eyes to see how this writing applies to me today”.

# **Star Light**

SL/2023-E4 Like stars, shine through the dark night sky

## *and God said*

### DISCLAIMER:

Some stories (if any) used in *Star Light* write ups are a creation of the imagination of the writer. Any resemblance to persons, living or dead, events, or locale are purely coincidental.

For a long time, I marveled at scriptures that gave, even if just a hint, that God spoke to someone. The height of such scriptures was this; “And so the Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, just as a man speaks to his friend. ...” (Exodus 33:11 NLT). Wouldn't it be wonderful to experience this kind of life?

### Does God want to speak to me?

From the very beginning, it has been God's desire to commune with man! The first of the creatures that God spoke to was man; “But the LORD God warned him, ...” (Genesis 2:15 NLT), and from this moment on, God has been running after man to have him listen. God wants (has always wanted to) speak to man; “If you wander off the road to the right or the left, you will hear his voice behind you saying, “Here is the road. Follow it.”” (Isaiah 30:21 GNB). “Then God Said to Noah” (Genesis 8:15 NLT). “But God said to Shemaiah, the man of God” (1 Kings 12:22 NLT), “But that same night God said to Nathan” (1 Chronicles 17:3 NLT). God Himself declares in the Psalms, “I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you [who are willing to learn] with my eye upon you” (Psalm 32:8 AMP). These are but a few entries showing God speaking to men. According to **Reno Gazette Journal**, ‘Over 2,000 times in the Old Testament there are phrases such as, “And God spoke to Moses” or “the word of the Lord came to Jonah” or “God said”’(1). This shows how much God wants to speak to you; He wants to speak to me; He wants to speak to us.

### How come I can't hear?

#### 1. Ignorance of how God speaks:

When God came desiring to speak to the young Samuel, Samuel had not the faintest idea who

was calling him. It took the discernment and counsel of Eli (an older believer) to show him how to align himself to hear God (1 Samuel 3:4-14). If we are ignorant of the ways God speaks, He will be speaking to us, but we'll not get the message. If you do not understand sign language, how can you tell someone says “come” or “run”?

#### 2. He will speak to me like He speaks to my pastor:

We expect Him to speak in a certain way (sometimes because that's how our mentors communicate with God), as such if He has not spoken in the way we expect, we do not associate it with God. If I do not experience a chill running from the top of my head to the soles of my feet, then God has not spoken. A spirit will have to appear in my room when all doors are locked and speak; that's when it is God speaking! Jacob had messages from God through angels (Genesis 32:24-30; etc), Jacob spoke with God (Genesis 35:1, etc), however, Joseph only had the experience of dreams. Had Joseph relied on only the experience of those before him, he would have missed what God was saying; “God has sent me ahead of you to keep you and your families alive and to preserve many survivors” (Genesis 45:7 NLT).

#### 3. God speaks to only Men of God:

Since we have the mind set that God speaks to only men of God, we are not listening! I am not a prophet, an apostle, pastor, or bishop; God is not interested in speaking to me. If God wants to speak to me, he will speak to my pastor to speak to me! But it was to an ordinary man, a murderer and fugitive by the name Moses that

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God spoke (Exodus 3:4-10), it was to an ordinary man, Gideon, that God spoke (Judges 6:14), it was to an ordinary young woman that God sent a message to (Luke 1:26-28). It was to an ordinary boy, Joseph, that God spoke (Genesis 37:5-7, 9-11). What more can I say, it is to an ordinary you and I that God is speaking to today, here and now!

4. **We are not asking for His direction:**

King David, even with the retinue he had, is known to be persistent in asking God for directions; *“Then David inquired of the Lord, saying, “Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will You give them into my hand?” And the Lord said to David, “Go up, for I will certainly give the Philistines into your hand”* (2 Samuel 5:19). But in our time, we have it all figured out. We know the science, we know how financial management works, we know the psychology of child upbringing, we know the laws of church growth, we know the ABCs of praying and receiving instant answers, we know everything; what's the point asking God for direction? (Consider Joshua 9:1-15, the pact Israel made with the Gibeonites). God is not a know-it-all talkative who is always dishing out directions even when none is sought. If He tries to speak and we ignore Him, He may allow us have our way! Even at the risk of our eternal damnation, God still knocks and waits for us to hear and open the door of our hearts to let Him in; *“Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends”* (Revelations 3:20 NLT, emphasis added).

**How does He speak?**

1. **Through Scriptures**

In Paul's letter to his son in the Lord Timothy, he said; *“All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.”* (2 Timothy 3:16-17 NLT, emphasis added). Have you been wondering whether a course of action was right or not, and just then you 'stumbled'

upon a scripture that gave you just the perspective you needed? That was God speaking to you through His word. No wonder the Psalmist declared; *“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path”* (Psalm 119:105 NLT). The Holy Spirit directed you to that scripture!

2. **Through Bible Sourced Teachings/Counsel**

God speaks to us through counsel received from other believers (counsel of the saints). These are people who themselves believe and practice the Word of Truth. Every true child of God I have come across has a spiritual authority over them (men you will usually hear them refer to as father in the Lord). These are men they receive counsel from. When Moses' father-in-law visited him and observed all he was doing, he gave him counsel; *“Now listen to me, and let me give you a word of advice, and may God be with you”* (Exodus 18:19 NLT). Wisdom also calls out *“Come and listen to my counsel. I'll share my heart with you and make you wise”* (Proverbs 1:23 NLT). Those who have gone ahead of us can counsel us in the ways of the Lord, and give us insight into what God may be saying regarding a given circumstance or course of action. However, we must be careful to judge their teaching/counsel against the Word of God. Remember the old prophet that deceived the young prophet (1 Kings 13:11-25). It is not by title, or age, but by the alignment of the vessel with the word of God.

3. **Through the Holy Spirit:**

The Lord Jesus Christ in His discussion with the disciples about the promise of the Holy Spirit, He told them; *“But when He, the Spirit of Truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth [full and complete truth]. For He will not speak on His own initiative, but He will speak whatever He hears [from the Father—the message regarding the Son], and He will disclose to you what is to come [in the future]”* (John 16:13 AMP, emphasis added). In Acts of the Apostles we have these accounts; *‘One day as these men were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Appoint Barnabas and Saul for the special work to*

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which I have called them.” (Acts 13:2 NLT); *‘Then the [Holy] Spirit said to Philip, “Go up and join this chariot.”’* (Acts 8:29 AMP). God speaks to us through His Spirit.

#### 4. Through Angels:

In announcing the birth of Jesus Christ, God sent His angel to deliver the message to shepherds; *‘But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people”’* (Luke 2:10 AMP). An angel brought the message about the birth and the assignment on the life of Samson; *‘The angel of the Lord appeared to Manoah’s wife and said, “Even though you have been unable to have children, you will soon become pregnant and give birth to a son”’* (Judges 13:3 NLT). To Apostle Paul, when at sea in danger of shipwreck, an angel came to give him assurance; *“For last night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve stood beside me, and he said, ‘Don’t be afraid, Paul, for you will surely stand trial before Caesar! What’s more, God in his goodness has granted safety to everyone sailing with you.’”* (Acts 27:23-24 NLT).

#### 5. Through Circumstances

God can speak to us through circumstantial events. Usually, we may not know this at the time, but in hind sight we would see that it was God speaking through the circumstances and leading us all along. However, just because circumstances are aligning with our desires is no guarantee that it is God speaking. We must weigh it against His Word; God cannot lead us along a path that contradicts His Word; *“For you have magnified Your word above all Your name”* (Psalm 138:2b NKJV). When Jesus was hungry after forty days of fasting, having the desire and needing something to eat was a natural consequence, but when the devil asked him to turn stones to bread, He objected; it did not align with the word of God (Matthew 4:3-4). When a damsel was obviously doing publicity for Paul, Paul rebuked the spirit of divination that was powering her (Acts 16:16-18). Whatever circumstances we experience, must align with the Word of God. We must

also note that sometimes circumstances may appear to be against us, yet it will be God working through them.

#### 6. Through Dreams and Visions:

There are several accounts (in scriptures) of God speaking to his children in dreams and visions. *“Then the secret was revealed to Daniel in a night vision.”* (Daniel 2:19 NLT). Joseph (the husband of Mary) received guidance from God regarding his marriage to Mary in a dream (Matthew 1:20), he also received warning to flee to Egypt so that the Baby Jesus would be preserved from the murderous Herod (Matthew 2:13).

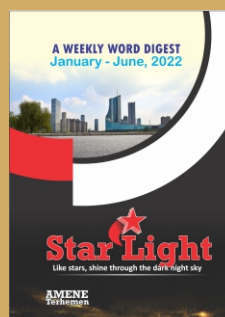
Are these the only ways God speaks to his children? Not by any means. We are all unique and God speaks to us in our individuality. **The key is to seek to know Him and get close enough to hear Him when He speaks.**

No matter the way God chooses to speak or reveal Himself to us in our day, this truth remains; God will never contradict His Word, and the message sent will always bring glory to His name. Any message that lacks these is suspect; hear John the Apostle, *“Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God”* (1 John 4:1 KJV) and Apostle Paul, *“But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to that which we [originally] preached to you, let him be condemned to destruction!”* (Galatians 1:8 AMP).

He wants to speak to us; are we willing to listen?

(1)[Reno Gazette Journal](https://www.rgi.com/story/life/2016/11/11/faith-forum-does-god-speak-directly-humans/93642772/):

<https://www.rgi.com/story/life/2016/11/11/faith-forum-does-god-speak-directly-humans/93642772/> accessed on March 2, 2023.



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