

HEARING GOD

Recognizing His Voice In A World Full Of Noise

Hearing God Through Life Events

Pastor Brad Howard - August 16, 2026

For God speaks again and again, though people do not recognize it.

Job 33:14

- God speaks through Scripture.
- God speaks through the Holy Spirit.
- God speaks through Trusted Voices.
- God speaks through our Inner Witness.
- And God can speak to us through our Circumstances.

"Not everything that happens is God speaking directly to us."

1. SOMETIMES GOD SPEAKS THROUGH A DREAM

Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him all the more.

Genesis 37:5

2. SOMETIMES GOD SPEAKS THROUGH A CLOSED DOOR

So when the Midianite merchants came by, his brothers pulled Joseph up out of the cistern and sold him for twenty shekels of silver to the Ishmaelites, who took him to Egypt. Genesis 37:28

The LORD was with Joseph so that he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master. Genesis 39:2

"A change in circumstances is not a change in God's presence."

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3. SOMETIMES GOD SPEAKS THROUGH A SEASON OF WAITING

Joseph's master took him and put him in prison . . . But while Joseph was there in the prison, the LORD was with him; he showed him kindness and granted him favor in the eyes of the prison warden. [Genesis 39:20-21](#)

The chief cupbearer, however, did not remember Joseph; he forgot him. [Genesis 40:23](#)

When two full years had passed, Pharaoh had a dream: [Genesis 41:1](#)

4. SOMETIMES GOD SPEAKS THROUGH OPPORTUNITY

So Pharaoh sent for Joseph . . . "I have heard it said of you that when you hear a dream you can interpret it." "I cannot do it," Joseph replied to Pharaoh, "but God will give Pharaoh the answer he desires." [Genesis 41:14-16](#)

5. GOD CAN SPEAK THROUGH THE PAINFUL PARTS OF OUR STORY

You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. [Genesis 50:20](#)