



God Working Through You

EXPERIENCING
GOD

Henry and Richard Blackaby
**EXPERIENCING GOD
THROUGH OBEDIENCE**

Session 9

Clabon Bogan – c.bogan2@gmail.com -- 609.230.5809



GOD WORKING THROUGH YOU

God always takes the initiative to come to us and reveal what He is doing or is about to do.

Revelation is when something that was hidden becomes known; and in most cases it reveals something about God.

There are basically two types of revelation:

a) **General (or indirect) revelation** which is made available to everyone.

- Often exposing God through the natural world, **conscience**, people, moral awareness, **scripture** or reason.

b) **Special (or direct) revelation** – which is revealed directly to an individual or sometimes a group.

- Describing the way God is revealed through dreams, visions, **miracles**, prophecy or experience.



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For anyone with a personal relationship with God, they will attest to the communication links between God and His people as individuals

Notice the instances of God's unveiling:

- God reveals His remedy for the diabolical work of Satan (Gen 3:15-16)
- God engages Noah to provide a safety mechanism for deliverance of life
 - Gen. 6:5-8 The LORD saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time. ⁶The LORD regretted that he had made human beings on the earth, and **his heart was deeply troubled.** ⁷So the LORD said, "I will wipe from the face of the earth the human race I have



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○ created—and with them the animals, the birds and the creatures that move along the ground—for I regret that I have made them.”⁸ **But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.**

□¹³ So God said to Noah, “I am going to put an end to all people.....¹⁴ So make yourself an ark¹⁵

This is how you are to build it:

After suffering under the hand of Midian for seven years, God assigned Gideon as their deliverer

➤ **Judges 6:12-16** And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him, and said to him, “The LORD is with you, you mighty man of valor!”¹³ Gideon said to Him, “O my lord, if the LORD is with us, why then has all this happened to us? And where are all His miracles which our fathers told us about, saying, ‘Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt?’ But now the LORD has forsaken us



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and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites."

¹⁴ Then the LORD turned to him and said, "Go in this might of yours, and you shall save Israel from the hand of the Midianites. Have I not sent you?" ¹⁵

So he said to Him, "O my Lord, how can I save Israel? **Indeed my clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house.**" ¹⁶ And the LORD said to him, "Surely I will be with you, and you shall defeat the Midianites as one man."

- When you consider the kind of man Gideon was, we must note God Who selected him, often chooses the "weak things" to accomplish greatness (I Cor. 1:26-29)
- Gideon's family worshiped Baal (Jdg. 6:25–32), although we have no proof that he did.
- Gideon's first response was to question *God's concern for His people, but then he questioned God's wisdom in choosing him to be the nation's deliverer.*



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- When Gideon called himself “**the least in my father’s house**” (v. 15), indicates his assessment by those with whom he lived
- Gideon’s negative response to the Lord’s words indicates his lack of faith and spiritual percept
- He wasn’t a man of **strong faith or courage**, and God had to patiently work with him to prepare him for leadership.
- God is always ready to make us what we ought to be if we’re **willing to submit to His will** (Eph. 2:10; Phil. 2:12–13).
- God knows how long it takes to turn Gideon’s **question marks into exclamation points. [? -- !]**
- *The Lord’s statements recorded in verses 12 and 14 should have given Gideon all the assurance he needed, **but he wouldn’t believe God’s Word.***



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In this, he was like Moses (Ex. 3:7–12), whose story Gideon surely knew since he was acquainted with Hebrew history (Jdg. 6:13).

- It has been said that ‘God’s commandments are God’s **enablements**.’
- Once God has called and commissioned us, all we have to do is obey Him by faith, and He does the rest.
- Faith means obeying God in spite of what we see, how we feel, or what the consequences might be.

But our shortcomings are not roadblocks to God.

- See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.” - Isaiah 43:19
- Eph. 2:10 “For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”



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

- Yielded will is turning from our way to God’s will
- Effectuating God’s will shaping our soul

MAN’S ACTION

REPENTANCE

YES I WILL

Thy Will be done in earth as You have purposed in heaven
(Luke 11:2)

GOD’S ACTION




GOD SPEAKS

You need to yield and affect change

I have a work I want you to do

I am going to give you all that you will need to fulfill your destiny in an excellent and pleasing way through your life-union with Jesus the Anointed. *(My paraphrase Heb. 13:21)*

OBSERVATIONS FROM THE VIDEO

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- ❑ One of the greatest and most satisfying moments is when a Father realizes that his son has heeded his direction and withstood all that the world has thrown on him
 - ❖ It enhances fellowship between father and son
 - ❑ John 15:14 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.
 - ❖ There is a difference between having Jesus as your friend, and you being a friend of Jesus.
 - ❖ We are not Jesus' friends because we believe what He said, but if we keep His commands
 - ❑ Luke 6:46 And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?
 - ❖ Just saying amen or Lord, Lord is useless if we don't do what God directs (OBEDIENCE)



OBSERVATIONS FROM THE VIDEO

- ❑ We are not friends of Jesus because of the depth or volume of our worship.
 - ❖ Isa 1 God say there is no substitute for obedience
 - ❖ In this chapter in Isaiah God also said that prayer is not a substitute for obedience.
- ❑ Matt. 25:21 says that when we obey God we enter into the joy of the Lord.
- ❑ When God speak we need to obey, even when it appears that things are getting worse and not better.
- ❑ In spiritual warfare we are not the General, we must obey the one in charge (II Chron 20:15)
- ❑ Satan can never stop God's children from being obedient - we are personally accountable to be obedient to God's direction for our lives



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God tells us in **Hebrews 11:8**, “**By faith** Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance.”

- There’s the secret. Abraham obeyed *by faith*.
- What that means is “faith” is a vehicle by which we can GO and DO what God wants.
 - If we were going to travel *by bike*, that means the bike is *how* we would get somewhere.
 - In the same way, if we were going to obey *by faith*, meaning faith is *how* you would obey.

Faith is how we pursue **Christian obedience** and Experience God’s purpose for His kingdom.

- Faith means trusting God’s promises — trusting all that God promises to be to us in Christ Jesus



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But “faith” in God raises two problems:

- 1) Our indwelling sin urges us not to trust God.
- 2) God’s promises are future and unseen

Faith grows as we maintain a **committed prayer life** with God. I.e., faith comes by hearing the word of God from the voice of God (Rom. 10:17)

It is the Holy Spirit that confirms God’s words and helps us set our hearts on trusting God’s promises

- He promotes obedience to God’s direction, recitation of God’s promises, and fulfilment of God’s blessings
- He exposes the reality that God attaches a promise to all His commands.

- **Col. 3:23-24** And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, ²⁴ **knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward** of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.



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God can surely take the circumstance of our disobedience and cause it to work together for good (Rom. 8:28)

But God does not have to guarantee a second chance:

- ❖ **Gen. 19:17, 26** Lots wife held on to secret longings
[Proving that failure to trust God can be deadly]
- ❖ **Lev. 10:1-2** Nadab and Abihu offered strange fire
- ❖ **Num 20:10** Moses stole God's glory striking the rock
["....Must we bring you water out of this rock"]
- ❖ **Joshua 7** Achan who pillaged of the accursed spoils
[His family and all of his possessions destroyed]
- ❖ **II Kings 5:20-27** Gehazi became overcome with avarice
[Brought leprosy on he and all his descendants]
- ❖ **Acts 5** Annanias and Sapphira lied about their worth
[Death overtook them respectively]

PERSONAL STUDY

1. Do you think God would give an assignment to a servant who had not obeyed what he previously commanded?

2. Read Jonah 1:1-17 and answer the following questions”
 - a) What did God ask Jonah to do (V2)?
 - b) How did Jonah respond (V3)?
 - c) How did God respond to Jonah (V 4-17)?



PERSONAL STUDY

3. Describe one thing God has done to bring meaning to your life through a God-sized task , faith and obedience?

4. How do you think you should respond when God has not given you the kind of assignment you want?



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