

The Word Became Flesh

All human beings had a beginning except Jesus. John 1:1 says, *“In the beginning was the Word...”* Why was Jesus called the Word? Words reveal our thoughts and intentions. Although creation partially reveals God’s glory (Psalm 19:1), and mankind is a fuller revelation (Psalm 8:5-6), only Jesus reveals the fullness of God’s glory (Hebrews 1:3).

Jesus is the ultimate way in which God communicates to us. Jesus did this even before He was born, through many pre-incarnate appearances (Genesis 3:8; 16:7; 18:1; 21:17; 32:24; Exodus 3:2, Numbers 22:22; Judges 13:3; Daniel 3:25).

Four Relational Methods of Communication Used by Jesus:

1. _____(Eat)

- a. *“If I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, do not pass your servant by. Let a little water be brought, and then you may all wash your feet and rest under the tree. Let me get you something to eat.”* Genesis 18:3-5. Sharing a meal is the universal sign of friendship. We use food not just to survive, but to connect.
- b. Dinner tables are connection centers, which may be why God has a way of showing up at tables, like the Passover table (Exodus 12:46) and the Communion table (Matthew 26:26).

2. _____(Listen)

- a. *“So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. ‘Quick,’ he said ‘Get three seahs of fine flour and knead it and bake some bread.’ Then he ran to the herd and selected a choice, tender calf and gave it to a servant, who hurried to prepare it.”* Genesis 18:6-7. While the meal was being prepared, Abraham had lots of time to dialog with his guests.
- b. Abraham was undoubtedly asked about his name, which meant “father of many”. But he was only the father of one, with his wife’s servant girl. Abraham’s visitors became aware of his desire to have a son by his wife.

3. _____(Serve)

- a. *“Where is your wife Sarah?’ they asked him. ‘There, in the tent,’ he said. Then the Lord said, ‘I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son.’”* Genesis 18:9-10. Sarah was eavesdropping and began to giggle as she was ninety years old.
- b. Sarah’s baby was named “Isaac” which means “laughter”, a constant reminder of his miraculous birth. Jesus loves to serve us at our greatest point of need.

4. _____(Speak)

- a. *“When the men got up to leave, they looked down toward Sodom, and Abraham walked along with them to see them on their way. Then the Lord said, ‘Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do?’” Genesis 18:16-17.*
- b. Abraham’s visitors came for two reasons: to assure him that God keeps his promise (to make of him a great nation), and to inform him that Sodom was being destroyed because of their sin. Jesus reflects the character of God by being full of grace and truth (John 1:14).

How can you most effectively communicate the good news about Jesus?

- **Eat with people, just as Jesus did (Matthew 9:11).**
- **Listen, just like Jesus (Luke 24:17; John 3:4; 4:7).**
- **Serve, by identifying needs and meeting them (Mark 1:32-33).**
- **Speak, but only after you have listened (James 1:19; Romans 10:14).**