

How To Relate To God

by

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God is an eternal being who can be described mainly as Spirit. He is not limited by time and space the way human beings are. That makes it difficult to understand how to interact and relate to Him. Sure we can communicate to him through thoughts and words using the means we have described as prayer, but a clear understanding of how he may communicate to us in return is hard to get a grip on. Some time ago this is the way I attempted to describe how this happens:

"GOD interacts and responds to us in mysterious, complex, and simple ways through his WORD, through the words and actions of other people and through events in the world. As the creator and master of matter and life he can and does accomplish "miracles" in the lives, minds, and bodies of people although the timing and purposes of such work is unclear to human beings. We must always remember that with man some things are not possible - with GOD all things are possible - from our salvation to our joy."

When you read this, the fact that God might communicate to me through your words and actions might produce skepticism because it might be concluded that for that to happen God might have to manipulate you. That is a valid observation and I believe it is related to the method he uses with an artist who has been said to be divinely inspired. Yet if you ask the artist how his work was produced he can clearly remember all the phases he went through to produce the work from conception to finished product. The fact that someone would claim it was divinely inspired would be a mystery to him, even though he himself might believe it as well. He would certainly object if you were to suggest that he was controlled or manipulated by God in the process.

What might be a fact for some people is that the Spirit of God has become such a part of them that it might be said that when they think, speak, or act it is really God working through them. They are not Robots but it might be possible that the Lord is at work in them, just as the Father worked through Jesus Christ. Certainly Paul had something like this in mind when he said **"It is not I who lives, but Christ who lives in me"** It is like there is a one-one bond between God and some people. It might be characterized the way a marriage happens. Not the wedding but the bond that is built over time.