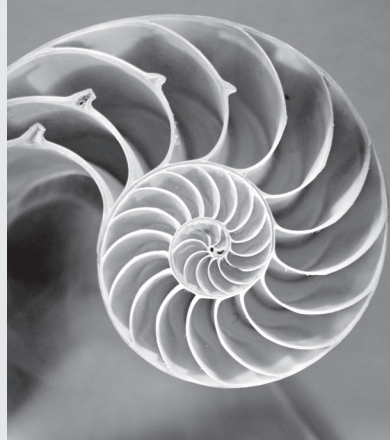


PART I

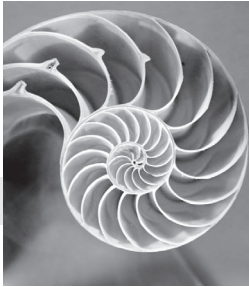


THIS IS YOUR GOLDEN MOMENT OF REALIZATION. This is the hope of a better way and even better things yet to come! It is time you had your very own conversation with God. Remove your doubts and inhibitions for a brief moment while you walk down this new road. You can always go back to them if you wish.

Now take my hand and walk with me for a moment. There is a whole new world waiting for you, a world filled with light, love, and unlimited opportunities!

Ready? Of course, you are. You wouldn't be here with me now if you weren't.

This is the golden moment of
realization.
The hope of a better way.
The hope of better things yet to come.
The realization that God actually
speaks and exists.
He really is here, and he loves you.



Chapter 1

A New Road

HAVE YOU EVER WANTED TO CALL GOD ON THE TELEPHONE and have a conversation with Him? I have. In fact, I have dozens of questions that I would like to ask Him on all sorts of topics. I suspect we all would like to have a real conversation with God. Not simply a one-way chat where you talk and He listens, but a *real* conversation with real words! If God *really is* God, then it would be a simple thing for Him to answer me in a way that I can clearly understand—words.

For years I have listened to sermons, read books by New Age authors, and asked people questions in hopes of finding a way to actually talk to God. What was I searching for? I wanted God to answer my questions in real, honest-to-goodness English. I wanted to hear *actual words* that I could understand. I didn't need or want pictures, Bible verses, or parables that required a master's degree to interpret. They didn't help me, and it took much too long to figure them out. I wanted specific answers to my direct questions. There had to be a way to talk to Him directly. If God was really there, I reasoned, and if He really did create everything around us, then it would be a simple thing for him to talk to me and answer a few of my questions—in plain English! Just like a real mother/father who answers their children's questions. I know that God

must be a busy guy, but surely He is the one being in the universe capable of doing more than one thing at a time.

So, if God is really there, then why can't He speak to me in a way that I can understand?

Words.

Many people over the ages have told us that God is real, but how do we really *know* it? The Bible teaches us that He is real, but since that was written thousands of years ago, how can we really *know* it? I can see, hear, smell, and touch so I'm sure that I am real. Oprah is real. John Travolta is real. My mother was real. Is God real?

For more than thirty years, I have listened to ministers preach about hearing God.

"How do I talk to God?" I asked the preachers.

"You pray and He will answer," they said.

"But I can't hear any answers," I said. "All I ever hear is silence."

"He'll answer you; you just have to learn how to recognize His answers. You can hear Him in pictures, dreams, music, and nature," they told me. "The next music you hear, the next person you meet, or the next words you read will contain His answer."

"Does He speak to you?" I asked.

"Of course, my child," they replied.

"What does His voice sound like — George Burns or James Earl Jones?"

They would laugh at that and pat me on the head and send me on my way, but inside my heart, it was a real question and no one would give me a direct answer. In fact, I had nothing but questions! What did His voice sound like? Would He speak to me?

Could He speak to me?

It has taken me many years, but I finally learned how to do it. I have learned how to talk with God Himself. The Almighty. The Great I am. I can now have two-way conversations with Him and receive answers in plain English that I can both hear and understand. Now, when I ask a question such as "Should I write this book?" I can clearly hear, "*Yes, of course, you should. Why wouldn't you?*" Real words and real answers.

Do I have your attention yet?

I know what you are thinking...

- What does He sound like?
- Where is the voice?
- Does the voice boom from the ceiling?
- What questions does He answer?
- You must be special, because normal people can't do this.
- Is this real or are you simply making this up as you go along?
- This must be a gimmick of some kind; it has to be.
- Do you start to glow?

Let's begin.

The voice that I "hear" comes from within. In fact, many people hear "voices" inside of their minds every day; they simply do not believe that it could be God talking to them. That "voice" you have been hearing for years is not your subconscious talking to you, nor is it your intuition.

It is God.

I was discussing this concept with my friend Jeanne last summer at a party, and as she listened, her expression changed. She then told me that she completely agreed that God can talk to you, because she had heard Him herself once.

It was the Friday before Thanksgiving, and her son Bryan was rushing out the door to go to school. Throwing his backpack across his shoulders, he raced outside only to hear a boy across the street shouting to hurry up because the school bus was coming. So without looking, Bryan dashed across the street—and immediately into the path of a car speeding down the road at 55 mph. Upon impact, the car threw Bryan through the air where he landed on the side of the road and was knocked unconscious.

A few moments later, Jeanne heard a knock at the door. Bryan must have forgotten something, she thought. But it wasn't Bryan. When she opened the door, she found a hysterical man screaming that a car had hit a child. As she listened to him, the color drained