Pastor Ron Case 2/20/11

"The God Who Speaks"

"And God said..." (Genesis 1:3)

Multi-Faceted Revelation

<u>Acts 2:17-21</u> – (17) "<u>And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters *shall prophesy*, and your young men shall *see visions*, and your old men *shall dream dreams*; (18) even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and <u>they shall prophesy</u>. (19) And I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke; (20) the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day. (21) And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."</u>

Preference of Prophesying

<u>1 Corinthians 14:1-4</u> – (1) "Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, <u>especially that you may prophesy</u>. (2) For one who speaks in a tongue speaks not to men but to God; for no one understands him, but he utters mysteries in the Spirit. (3) On the other hand, the one who prophesies speaks to people for their upbuilding and encouragement and consolation. (4) The one who speaks in a tongue builds up himself, but the one who prophesies builds up the church."

<u>Visions</u>

<u>Acts 9:10-12</u> – (10) "Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, 'Ananias.' And he said, 'Here I am, Lord.' (11) And the Lord said to him, 'Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, (12) and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.'"

What Dreams May Come

<u>Job 33:14-18</u> – (14) "For God does speak--now one way, now another-- though man may not perceive it. (15) In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falls on men as they slumber in their beds, (16) <u>he may speak in their ears and</u> <u>terrify them with warnings</u>, (17) <u>to turn man from wrongdoing and keep him from</u> <u>pride</u>, (18) <u>to preserve his soul from the pit..."</u> (*NIV*)

Key Point: Keep an Open Invitation for Divine Communication

<u>Response</u>

(1) Be Open to God at all Times

"See that you do not refuse him who is speaking. For if they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape if we reject him who warns from heaven." (Hebrews 12:25)

(2) Receive & Give

"The

Lord GOD has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught." (Isaiah 50:4)

(3) Keep Dreams and Visions Close; Speak the Word Out

"Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but <u>let him who has</u> <u>my word speak my word faithfully</u>. What has straw in common with wheat? declares the LORD. Is not my word like fire, declares the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?" (Jeremiah 23:28-29)

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message? Have I inclined my heart to God's voice? (Is. 55:3) When does God want to speak to me? (Heb. 3:7, 13, 15, 4:7)