

## Breakout Group - Handout 2

Concerning the inspiration of Scripture, which form of revelation (external manifestation, internal direction, or concursive operation) is superior? By superior, I mean that it produces a final product that is more accurate and/or more authoritative? Explain your answer.

What are some examples of how we might receive external revelation, internal direction, or experience concursive operation today?

How can we take what we have learned and apply it to the manner and means of preaching? Is a sermon that is preached with tears and passion more accurate and authoritative than one preached in a quiet demeanor? Is a sermon without notes superior to a sermon in which notes were used?

## Breakout Group - Handout 2 - Answers

Concerning the inspiration of Scripture, which form of revelation (external manifestation, internal direction, or concursive operation) is superior? By superior, I mean that it produces a final product that is more accurate and/or more authoritative? Explain your answer.

None of the forms of revelation are more superior than the others when it comes to the final work produced by these modes in the written Word of God. The words Moses received at the burning bush are not superior to the visions the prophets received or the work of the Holy Spirit in Paul when he authored the epistles of the New Testament. They all produced a perfect work.

What are some examples of how we might receive external revelation, internal direction, or experience concursive operation today?

External revelation: Outside of the premier external revelation of the inspired and perfect Word of God, the Scriptures teach that it is possible that we might be visited by angels (Heb. 13:2).

Internal Direction: I believe it is possible that the Holy Spirit could overpower an individual to say or do something that is beyond them. Similarly, God could grant a vision or a dream by which He would communicate a specific message.

Concursive Operation: I tend to believe this is what it means to be filled with the Spirit. To the extent that we yield ourselves to the Lord, our hearts, our thoughts, our words, and our deeds will be influenced by the Holy Spirit so that we are living above our flesh and yielding something that can only be attributed to God. God's Spirit can give us burdens or inclinations that guide our heart and thoughts, providing us direction to do His perfect will. This can even occur when we don't realize it.

Again, none of these things trump the Word of God, replace it, or nullify it. If we want to receive certain revelation, we must go to the Word!

How can we take what we have learned and apply it to the manner and means of preaching? Is a sermon that is preached with tears and passion more powerful, accurate, and authoritative than one preached in a quiet demeanor? Is a sermon without notes superior to a sermon in which notes were used?

We have learned that God uses many means to communicate His purposes. One specific mode is not superior to others. The key is that it must correspond to God's Word and empowered by His Spirit. His Spirit is not limited to one vehicle. We should not impose such a limitation on the ministry of the Word or we are limiting the means by which God may choose to communicate to us!