The Ears Have It

When the telegraph was the fastest means of long-distance communication, a young man applied for a job as a Morse code operator.

Answering an ad in the newspaper, he went to the address that was listed. When he arrived, he entered a large, noisy office. In the background, a telegraph clacked away. A sign on the receptionist's counter instructed applicants to fill out a form and wait until they were summoned to enter the inner office.

The young man completed his form and sat down with seven other applicants. After a few minutes, the young man stood up, crossed the room to the door of the inner office, and walked right in.



The other applicants perked up, wondering what was going on. Why had this man been so bold? They muttered among themselves that they hadn't heard any summons yet. They took more than a little satisfaction in assuming the young man who went into the office would be reprimanded for his presumption and summarily disqualified for the job.

Within a few minutes, the young man emerged from the inner office escorted by the interviewer, who announced to the other applicants, "Gentlemen, thank you very much for coming, but the job has been filled by this young man."

The other applicants began grumbling. Then one spoke up, saying, "Wait a minute. I don't understand something. He was the last one to come in, and we never even got a chance to be interviewed. Yet he got the job. That's not fair."

The employer said, "I'm sorry, but all the time you've been sitting here, the telegraph has been ticking out the following message in Morse code: *If you understand this message, then come right in. The job is yours.* None of you heard it or understood it. This young man did. So the job is his."

There is a spiritual lesson in this story.

God uses many means to demonstrate His care – not only through His Word, His Spirit, and the ministry of Christian friends, but also through more unconventional methods, such as burning bushes, talking donkeys, hungry creatures of the sea, visiting angels, or a bright star in the darkened sky.

My guess is that God has used some direct or unconventional way of showing His love and grace specifically to you.

We need only to be alert to these signs.

God speaks in different ways, and we don't always recognize His voice (Job 33:14 CEV).

- Beecher Hunter