

Talking to the Dead?

Can we talk to people who have died?

Perhaps someone you love has passed away. Maybe that person was a **family member** or a **very good friend**, and you'd like to hear from them again. Does God approve of **contact** with the **dead?**?

God's Word — the Bible — says that we are **never** to consult with the dead. To do so is totally **unacceptable** to the Lord. That sounds pretty harsh, but God is **very clear** on this matter.

We are **never** to speak to the dead.

Why does God forbid such contact? Because the dead are separated from people on earth. If someone claims to have spoken with a dead person or received a message, they likely met a demon. Demons are evil satanic beings who want to harm people. They can imitate someone who has died — but it's pure trickery. The demon also may sound friendly at first, but such a being will eventually try to put you in danger.

"Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour." $-1 \, Peter \, 5:8$

Some people make the **mistake** of visiting **psychics**, **mediums**, **witches**, and others who claim they can contact spirits. Or they



use dangerous things like Ouija boards, tarot cards, or horoscopes to engage the unseen world. These can invite evil into your life and cause harm to you or your loved ones.

"Someone may say to you, 'Let's ask the mediums and those who consult the spirits of the dead. With their whisperings and mutterings, they will tell us what to do.' But

shouldn't people ask God for guidance? Should the living seek guidance from the dead? Look to God's instructions and teachings! People who contradict His word are completely in the dark." — Isaiah~8:19-20

The dead cannot visit the living. When a person dies, their soul goes immediately either to heaven or to hell, as God directs.

A person who belongs to God is received in heaven, and one who does not belong to God goes to hell. They cannot change their location or choose to visit earth.



Jesus is our only ladder to heaven

"And just as each person is destined to die once and after that comes judgment..."

- Hebrews 9:27

Can we ask God to give a message to our dead loved one? This is not a good idea. God is not our personal messenger. He is almighty God!!

Do the dead in heaven see us? And can they ask God to help us? The Bible does not say. We know that they are busy worshiping and enjoying God and the life of heaven. God has freed them from the worries of their old life.

Should we pray to the dead? Never! Only God can hear & answer our prayers. People in some religions wrongly pray to so-called "saints", but that is praying to the dead — don't do that! Our heavenly contact is to be with God the Father, Jesus His Son (our Saviour), and the Holy Spirit of God (who comes to live in us when we receive Jesus as our Saviour).

Can we pray for the dead? Praying cannot save a person who has already died without receiving the Lord Jesus as their Saviour. But we can thank God for that person and for our relationship while they were alive. If we feel guilty about something we said or did while that person was alive, we can ask God to forgive us and help us to be more kind to others.

Will we ever see our dead family or friends again?

The great news is that God's children will be reunited in heaven. And one day, we will receive new resurrection bodies that will be created by God to last forever!

God has magnificent plans for His children — including reunion with loved ones.

So don't be fooled into chasing anything less!!