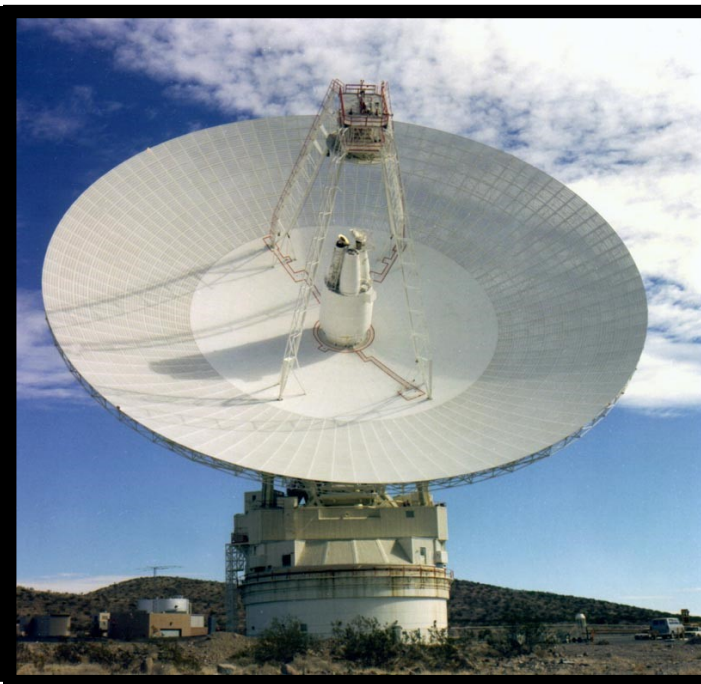




Spiritual Receptivity and Response



Spiritual receptivity & response



- 1. God dwells in His creation and is everywhere indivisibly present in all His works... What now does [this reality] mean in direct Christian experience? It means simply that God is here.**
- 2. Wherever we are, God is here. There is no place, there can be no place, where He is not.**
- 3. The Presence and the manifestation of the Presence are not the same.**
- 4. There can be the one without the other. God is here when we are wholly unaware of it.**
- 5. He is manifest only when and as we are aware of His Presence.**



Spiritual receptivity & response



- 6.** On our part there must be surrender to the Spirit of God, for it is His work to show us the Father and the Son.
- 7.** If we co-operate with Him in loving obedience God will manifest Himself to us, and that manifestation will be the difference between a nominal Christian life and a life radiant with the light of His face.
- 8.** Our pursuit of God is successful just because He is forever seeking to manifest Himself to us.



Spiritual receptivity & response



- 9.** I venture to suggest that the one vital quality which [those who experienced God's manifest presence] had in common was spiritual receptivity.
- 10.** Something in them was open to heaven, something which urged them Godward... they had spiritual awareness and that they went on to cultivate it until it became the biggest thing in their lives.
- 11.** They differed from the average person in that when they felt the inward longing they did something about it.



Spiritual receptivity & response



- 12.** They acquired the lifelong habit of spiritual response.
- 13.** [Spiritual receptivity] is not a sovereign and irresistible force which comes upon us as a seizure from above. It is a gift of God, indeed, but one which must be recognized and cultivated as any other gift if it is to realize the purpose for which it was given.
- 14.** Failure to see this is the cause of a very serious breakdown in modern evangelicalism



Spiritual receptivity & response



- 15.** The idea of cultivation and exercise, so dear to the saints of old, has now no place in our total religious picture.
- 16.** Let any man turn to God in earnest, let him begin to exercise himself unto godliness, let him seek to develop his powers of spiritual receptivity by trust and obedience and humility, and the results will exceed anything he may have hoped in his leaner and weaker days.



Spiritual receptivity & response



- 17.** The Universal Presence is a fact. God is here. The whole universe is alive with His life. And He is no strange or foreign God, but the familiar Father of our Lord Jesus Christ whose love has for these thousands of years enfolded the sinful race of men.
- 18.** And always He is trying to get our attention, to reveal Himself to us, to communicate with us. We have within us the ability to know Him if we will but respond to His overtures. (And this we call pursuing God!)
- 19.** We will know Him in increasing degree as our receptivity becomes more perfect by faith and love and practice.



Pathway to greater results in God



Let any man turn to God in earnest, let him begin to exercise himself unto godliness, let him seek to develop his powers of spiritual receptivity by trust and obedience and humility, and the results will exceed anything he may have hoped in his leaner and weaker days.

— *Aiden Wilson Tozer* —

AZ QUOTES

