

The LORD said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. 1 Kings 19:11-12 (NIV)

Quiet

I know one thing that is for certain. **What's that?** I will only hear your whispers if I want to hear your whispers. **Why do you say that?** Life is busy and noisy. If I want to hear your voice speaking to me, I will need to quiet myself before you. That may seem like an easy task to some. But it is not. It takes a vigorous and committed effort to regularly and consistently quiet myself before you. **Why is that the case?** The demands of life scream for my attention. All that seems urgent but is ultimately not all that important attempts to monopolize all my time. There is never enough time to complete all the items on the "to do" lists of life. Trust me, I know. I have raced through life accomplishing the urgent and the unimportant. **I do trust you, on this. Your life is not hidden from me. I have seen the frantic activity of your life.** I know.

Do you want to hear from me? There is nothing I want more than to hear from you. **Why is that?** I want to come to know you. I want to come to love you. I want to come to follow and serve you. I want to come to live my life with and for you. I want to live and walk in an intimate relationship with you. I don't want to hear an occasional whisper from you. I want to live in an ongoing dialogue with you throughout the day by day, moments of my life. **How will that be possible?** Only by you making it possible, of that I am sure. **Yes, but what will need to happen in you for you to be able to hear from me?** I will tell you what I think. **Go ahead, I'm listening.** Day by day and moment by moment you will make me better able to hear your voice as I continue to quiet myself before you. **How do you know that to be true?** That is what you have been doing in me already. You are making me better able to hear from you. **Yes, I am. Keep on quieting yourself before me.** Yes, I will. **That will be very good.**

Heavenly Father, I will withdraw from the noise and busyness of life so I can hear from you. I will quiet myself before you so I can hear your gentle whispers. Speak to me. I am listening. I will hear and respond and act on everything you have to say to me. Amen

A Gentle Whisper

Year ____ Week ____ Day ____ Date ____

Becoming Like Christ – 1 Kings 19:11-12

In Context: *Read 1 Kings 19*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

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Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

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Praying The Scripture: ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

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What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

What has helped or hindered you in hearing gentle whispers from God?

When have you received guidance from God in the form of a gentle whisper?

Why are whispers from God far more frequent than you probably realize?

When are you withdrawing from the noise and busyness of life so you can hear God speaking to you?

Why is it well worth your effort to set aside a quiet time and place to meet with God in prayer?

Why will you be unlikely to hear from God if you do not quiet yourself before Him?

How is your life different because you have responded to whispers from God?

Living It Out: ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Set aside a time and place to quiet yourself before God so you can hear from Him.

Seeing It Happen: ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that God will speak to you in gentle whispers when you meet with Him in prayer.

Get Ready To Share: ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group something God has spoken to you through a gentle whisper.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you quiet yourself before God so that you can hear from Him.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Heavenly Father, I will quiet myself before you so I can hear from you.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Heavenly Father, what do you want to say to me today?
