

Silence the Noise

By Chaille Brindley

No matter where you turn, there are voices trying to drown out the words of God. In a world full of media, people are overwhelmed with a constant onslaught of noise. From television and music to computers and the Internet, millions are sedated every day by mainlining the drug of entertainment.

There are hundreds of channels on TV yet nothing worth watching. Night after night people keep on clicking from channel to channel looking for love and joy in all the wrong places. Caught in the hypnotic glare of the tube, they attempt to escape from the troubles of life. While trying to forget for just a moment, they fall deeper and deeper into despair.

Today, we have more ways to communicate, but as a society have never been more alone. We have more things to do, but people on the average have never lived more unfulfilled lives. Rush, rush, rush. It's as if the devil keeps turning up the volume the moment someone comes close to discovering the truth. Christians attend Church services week after week without experiencing any real change.

It's like many Christians keep walking around a revolving door with no real ability to exit the burning building.

The noise keeps people prisoner. Only the new life in Christ can set them free.

The noise defined: The lies of the enemy and the cares of the world that keeps people from hearing the voice of God and seeing things as He views them.

With so much noise going on in the world, what's the answer? Well, it is very simple – get away and listen to the voice of God.

Find a quiet place away from distractions, turn off the cell phone, forget about everything else you have to do, and just enjoy the presence of God. Although there is no one 'right' way to do this, consider starting off by asking the Lord to show you sins in your life. Repent and get your hearts right with God. As Christ washes away your past, ask the Holy Spirit to reveal God's Word to you. Begin to pray and open your heart to God. You may need to sit and just listen for a while.

One of the best ways that God tends to speak to us is through His Word. Take some time reading the Bible. Consider reading a few verses and meditating on them. Or you can read an entire book. You can even pray the Word if you want. The only ground rule is to earnestly seek God with all your heart. The Lord will do the rest.

As God begins to show you things, you may want to write them down. Men, don't be afraid to write down your feelings and God's revelation.

Many people are running from God. For anything meaningful to take place in our lives, we need to first hear directly from the Lord. You may feel alone, abandoned by God or others in your life.

God wants to heal your wounded soul. He wants to be your Lover, Father, Redeemer, Friend, Healer and Lord. You may be carrying around past hurt. You may honestly feel nothing for God. That's Ok. Ask God to fill you with His love and stir up passion for Him in your heart.

You may have 'everything' that money can buy and not feel that you need God. But consider that Solomon, one of the wealthiest men of all time, said that everything is meaningless without God.

Take a chance and see if there really is something to opening your heart to God. You have nothing to lose and everything to gain.

As you seek God and give Him your pain or despair, he will restore the brokenness. Just be honest with God...He already knows the truth. This exercise is not just for the new Christians reading this meditation. Everyone needs to get alone to hear from God. We all have areas in our lives where we need more of the Lord.

One key characteristic of mighty men of God is that they all spent time alone with the Lord. Look at Paul who spent time in the wilderness seeking the face of God before starting his ministry. Consider the lives of Moses, David, or Elijah; all of these men set aside time to pursue God one-on-one. Even Jesus, as both God and man, set the example for us by spending forty days and nights alone with His Father in the wilderness. Jesus frequently went away to pray and commune with the Father. **When was the last time you took a day, weekend or even an afternoon just to spend with God?**

Consider scheduling some time this week, if not today, to just be with God.

Here's why...

Waiting on the Lord

Waiting on the Lord has never come easy for me. But it is essential for a joyful life. Stop and consider what the Scriptures have to say about waiting on the voice of God.

Isaiah 40:31

But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.

Lamentations 3:25-26

The LORD is good to those who wait for Him, to the soul who seeks Him. It is good that one should hope and wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD.

Psalms 85:8

I will hear what God the LORD will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints: but let them not turn again to folly.

Isaiah 64:4

Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him.

Isaiah 30:15

This is what the Sovereign LORD, the Holy One of Israel, says: “In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it.”