

# A Gentle Whisper

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Because God, as well as being the God of holiness and judgment, the God who is righteous in every way, is the God of grace.

The God who speaks. The God who has revealed himself to you and I tonight in the person of Jesus Christ. The Word.

That's why John begins his gospel with, in the beginning was the Word. And the Word was God and the Word was with God. And it was the Word that became flesh in order to bring to us God.

[ 2 9 : 0 5 ] In order for us to see in Jesus Christ what God is really like. I wonder how many of you tonight wonder, what is God like? How can I discover what the nature of God is?

Everybody's got their own ideas and opinions. Some people think God is this. Some people think God is that. How do you really get to know? You get to know by reading about Jesus. And by discovering what God is and who God is.

He who has seen me, said Jesus, has seen the Father. So I would ask you tonight, if you've never done it before. If this is your first time. If this is, you're at the very beginning.

Or perhaps you want to rediscover what the gospel is like. Then start with Jesus. He who has seen me, has seen the Father. God is saying, the Lord is saying to Elijah.

That although there was a time and a place for Mount Zinai. There is now a time and a place for mercy. And for reconciliation. And that can only come through the voice.

[ 3 0 : 1 2 ] The still voice of God. You think about it tonight. About the difference between the Old Testament and the New Testament.

The Old Testament had its place. It's the same God. God hasn't changed. And yet, the way in which he has communicated with humankind.

There's a huge, massive contrast. In the Old Testament, as I've said before. There was the fire and the earthquake. And the lightning and the thunder. In him giving his law.

But isn't it interesting? Isn't it fascinating? That when God is going to do the most spectacular thing in all the universe. When God himself is going to come into the world.

Where he personally is going to enter and arrive into this world. There's no thunder. There's no fire. There's no lightning.

[ 3 1 : 1 1 ] There's no earthquake. He comes in obscurity and in silence and in secret. And that same Jesus that was born in secret and obscurity when he begins his ministry.

He does so in such an unobtrusive way. In such a gentle way. But it is in that gentleness that people's hearts are changed.

People like the woman of Samaria who Jesus met by God-ordered coincidence. And it was as Jesus spoke to her.  
As he reasoned with her about who she was. That all of a sudden her needs, all her skepticism and cynicism came out.  
And as he continued to speak to her and invite her and reach into her heart. That her life from within was being changed.  
[ 32 : 15 ] That's the way the gospel works. The prophet puts it this way. God tells us about Jesus. He says, behold my servant whom I uphold. He says.  
He will. He will. He will. My chosen one. In whom is my delight.  
He will not cry or lift up his voice. And his voice will not be heard in the streets. A bruised reed. He will not break.  
And the smoldering flax. He will not snuff out. All you have to do to hear the still small voice of Jesus. Is to follow him through the streets.  
And through the cities and the towns of Judea. In and around Judea and Jerusalem. The way in which he calls people to himself. The way in which he heals the woman that was taken in adultery.  
[ 33 : 15 ] Or the Pharisees wanted to stone her. Because they had caught her in the very act. There was no question whatsoever. She deserved God's judgment and their judgment. What did he say to her? He said to them.  
First of all. He who is without sin. Let him be the one to cast the first stone. And then he said to the woman. Once they had all made an exit. Where are those who condemn you?  
Then he said. Neither do I condemn you. Go. In peace. Listen to him speaking to the woman who came in that day. In tears.  
Why? Because she had discovered. Where her forgiveness lay. This was a woman who was wracked with guilt. Who had made a mess of her life.  
And there was no hope in anyone. No one could cleanse her. Or change her life. Or straighten her life. Until she came to know the Lord Jesus.  
[ 34 : 12 ] And she came into the dinner party where Jesus was. With Simon the Pharisee. And she came and she anointed his feet.  
And Jesus said. Your sins. Are forgiven. That is the still. Small voice. Of the gospel.  
And today. I wonder. If you've heard that voice. It's a very simple question. Isn't it? I say that particularly.  
Because there are people. Who believe that if they're going to be converted. It's got to be in some dramatic way. Is there someone here tonight.  
You're not a believer in Jesus. And you believe. You've got it all worked out. That if you were ever to become a believer in Jesus. This is the way it will happen. Because.  
[ 35 : 14 ] You've heard of other people. People you know who have become Christians. And. They've had a dramatic conversion. Something strange has happened to them.  
Something. Spectacular. Perhaps even bordering on the miraculous. And you say. Well if that doesn't happen to me. I can't be a follower. I didn't ask.  
Have you had anything spectacular. Done to you. I simply ask this. Have you heard. The still. Small. Whisper. Of the Jesus. Who invites you. To come. To him. Simply. Him.  
Alone. To put your trust. Once. Once. And for all. In his death. And in his resurrection. Him.  
[ 36 : 14 ] Alone. There is nothing. In all the world. As. Transformingly. Powerful.  
As the. Tiny. Whisper. Of the gospel. That says to you. Come to Jesus. Come as you are.  
Come personally. Leave behind. Your old life. It has only brought you. Emptiness. And disappointment.  
And guilt. Jesus says. He who comes to me. I will never. Drive. Away.  
Let's pray. Let's pray. Let's pray. Let's pray.  
[ 37 : 12 ] Thank you.