



SOUTHBRIDGE
COMMUNITY CHURCH

“Conversations with God” Part V

Sunday, May 11, 2008

Pastor Darin Poli

Psalms 46:10a (NIV) “Be still, and know that I am God...”

Matthew 11:12 (NIV) “From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it.”

** How should I respond when hearing what appears to be _____ ?

Review 3 Foundations:

1. There is potential in prayer that I have yet to experience.
2. The idea of a “back and forth” conversation with God is both exciting and challenging to me.
3. Past difficulties or lack of experience does NOT limit my potential in prayer.

1 Kings 19:3a, 4, 8-9, 11-13a (NLT)

Elijah was afraid and fled for his life... 4 Then he went on alone into the desert, traveling all day. He sat down under a solitary broom tree and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, LORD," he said. "Take my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." 8 So he got up and ate and drank, and the food gave him enough strength to travel forty days and forty nights to Mount Sinai, the mountain of God. 9 There he came to a cave, where he spent the night. But the LORD said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" 11 "Go out and stand before me on the mountain," the LORD told him. And as Elijah stood there, the LORD passed by, and a mighty windstorm hit the mountain. It was such a terrible blast that the rocks were torn loose, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. 12 And after the earthquake there was a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire there was the sound of a gentle whisper. 13 When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

* When it came to experiencing God in powerful ways, Elijah had an impressive _____!

“God, is that REALLY you??”

1. Personal Conviction: God is _____!
v.9 There he came to a cave, where he spent the night. But the LORD said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

2. It is not always _____.
v.11b-12a And as Elijah stood there, the LORD passed by, and a mighty windstorm hit the mountain. It was such a terrible blast that the rocks were torn loose, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. 12 And after the earthquake there was a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire.

- No matter how spiritually strong I am, I can still _____ God’s voice.
- What “_____” have I placed around me?

3. How do I best _____ myself to hear God’s voice?
v.12b And after the fire there was the sound of a gentle whisper.

4. Other than times of _____, do I REALLY desire to hear God’s voice?
Psalms 42:1-2 (NLT) As the deer pants for streams of water, so I long for you, O God. 2 I thirst for God, the living God. When can I come and stand before him?

Personal Action Steps

- Rest assured, if you struggle at times trying to hear God’s voice, you are in good company! (Elijah, Joseph, Mary, etc.)
- Do I honestly agree with point #1? Do I doubt?
- Conversations with God: What action step do I need to take? Now is the time!