



A Still Small Voice...
Under My Bed!

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I was enjoying breakfast and a good book one Saturday morning late in September. As the TV babbled in the background, my husband popped into the kitchen to tell me his plans for the day—he

was headed to the river for an early morning kayak run. He gave me a kiss and dashed out the door. After he left I tried to continue reading, but my mind wandered from my latest e-book to the busy but delightful day that was before me: Bible study, errands, lunch with my mother, and an afternoon of college football with friends and family. *I better get moving.* I turned off the TV, shut down my Kindle, put my dishes in the sink and went to my room to settle down for a little Bible study. Peace descended upon my house like a cozy blanket.

As I arranged my pillows, I stuck my Kindle under my bed and pulled out my Bible study books. I sat for a moment to listen to the peace and let it soak into my soul. The stillness of my home was the perfect backdrop for my Quiet Time. Eagerly I opened my Bible, and delved into God's Word.

Peace.

Quiet.

Solitude.

Bliss.

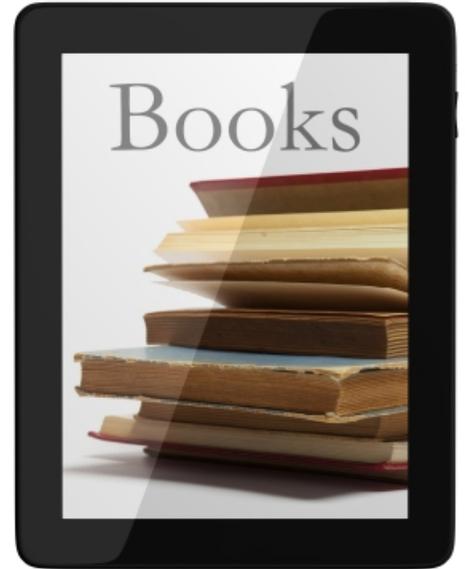
The minutes slipped by unnoticed as I savored my time with God. I became *Mary* at the feet of her Savior.

Slowly but surely something began to intrude into my subconscious mind. A faint sound ... infringing upon my peace like the relentless drip, drip, drip of a faucet ... barely there, but annoyingly there. After a few minutes the sound seemed to become louder as my senses fully awakened to the constant trickle of noise. *What is that?* I asked myself, foolishly hoping that it would cease on its own. I tried to ignore the din and continue my now not so quiet Quiet Time.

After several minutes I reached my breaking point. I got up and peeked out in the kitchen to see if I left the TV on. Nope. I looked around the kitchen curiously to locate the source of the noise. Finding nothing, I returned to my room, snuggled

back beneath the blankets and continued my study time. After a few more minutes of study, the *SOUNDS* returned. With a sigh, I set aside my books again, and set out to identify the source of the *SOUNDS*. This time I was sure I was hearing voices. I looked out my windows to see if my neighbors were talking in the yard. No one was around. I paused a moment for a sanity check, (usually hearing voices is not a good sign). I decided I was still in my right mind.

Scratching my head, I returned to my bed and sat quietly for a moment, frozen like a statue, head cocked to one side, listening. The *SOUNDS* seemed to be coming from ... under my bed. *Under my bed?* While still sitting, I bent over (now upside down) and looked under my bed. The only thing I saw was my Kindle. I picked up my Kindle and sat up to examine it. I flicked open the case and held it up to my ear. Eureka! Mystery solved. My audio bible was playing. I must have accidentally activated my audio app while I was reading at breakfast. The noise of the TV and my conversation with my husband drowned out the sound.



The voice was continually speaking, but I could only hear it in the quiet. Some how this thought seemed vaguely familiar to me As my mind began to make a connection, I felt the Holy Spirit nudge my soul. I was instantly aware that God had a message for me in this strange experience.

Even though no one was listening to the recording, it continued to play, speaking forth the timeless truths of God's Holy Word. It was only when I went into the quiet solitude of my bedroom that the recording became audible. Often, as Christians, we think God is silent. He speaks to other people but not specifically to us. Is He *really* silent, or are we not positioning ourselves to hear Him? God is not going to shout above the noise. For many of us, God's Word is just a click away. He beckons us to leave the hubbub and clamor of everyday life so we can learn from Him and be restored and renewed.

Like my Kindle under my bed, God is constantly speaking; declaring His truth and wisdom to anyone who will listen. In our trials, hardships, joys, successes, mundane tasks, and everyday experiences, He is constantly speaking and we must constantly listen.

Get alone. Get quiet. Your Father is speaking.

"Then He said, "Go out, and stand on the mountain before the LORD." And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice."

1 Kings 19:12-13