

THE SOUND OF YOU

GENESIS 3:8-10 (ESV)

⁸ And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰ And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself."

What a sound it must have been. He walked with them before. It was His rhythm. God spending time with His creation. That is the essence of what we know about our God. He just wants to be near His people. God knew already the state they were in. He didn't change, they had.

But they (Adam and Eve) noticed the sound that they were tuned into was different than the sound He was emitting. What a gut wrenching feeling that must have been. Until that moment, all they knew was God and them living in harmony.

But God didn't walk away from man when they fell, He walked to them. That is the thing you have got to know about your God. He doesn't run from need, He runs to it! For two people to even have the ability to make a statement like that is mind blowing. I HEARD THE SOUND OF YOU. What a sound this would have been.

REVELATION 3:19-21 (GW) (Gives us what HE has been doing since)¹⁹ I correct and discipline everyone I love. Take this seriously, and change the way you think and act. ²⁰ Look, I'm standing at the **door and knocking.** If anyone listens to My voice and opens the door, I'll come in and we'll eat together. ²¹ I will allow everyone who wins the victory to sit with Me on My throne, as I have won the victory and have sat down with my Father on His throne.

God is still making the sound to draw people. Listen to My voice. Open the Door. He will come in. We will eat together. You will experience the same VICTORY as Jesus did. Sounds almost exactly the life that Adam and Eve had.

Acts 2 describes when the sound came from heaven to earth.

ACTS 2:1-6 (ESV)

¹ When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly there came **from heaven a sound** like a mighty rushing wind, and **it filled the entire house** where they were **sitting**. ³ And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak **(sound came before the speaking)** in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. ⁵ Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. ⁶ And **at this sound the multitude came together**

The crowd gathered at a sound.

- It wasn't just the fire. (divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one)
- It wasn't necessarily the speaking in tongues (But the crowd noticed)
- It wasn't the diversity (devout men from every nation under heaven)
- It wasn't just the unity (they were all together in one place)
- It was the sound that drew the crowd.

What the crowd heard that day, was the same thing the Adam and Eve heard. God, I heard the SOUND OF YOU!

That's what people are searching for! The Sound of God! At the heart of every believer should be the desire to stay in the place where the sound of God resounds in the life they live. Perfection is not required. Surrender is. I wonder what sound the church is producing?

There are seasons when the people of God have been in harmony and times where they haven't. The Children of Israel were gathered. Moses was on the mountain in the glory. As Moses is coming down the mountain he meets up with his disciple Joshua. **They come upon a noise.** It was fascinating.

EXODUS 32:7-8, 17-18

⁷ And the Lord said to Moses, "Go down, for your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, **have corrupted themselves**. **(they began singing to another tune)** ⁸ They have turned aside quickly out of the way that I commanded them.

¹⁷ When Joshua heard the noise **(noise vs. sound, Joshua was about to learn a lesson)** of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, "There is a noise of war in the camp."

Where Joshua heard noise, Moses heard a sound. Moses had just been with the originator of sound, he smelled a counterfeit. We often get deceived in times where we have not been with the originator.

¹⁸ But he said, "It is not the sound of shouting for victory, or the sound of the cry of defeat, but the sound of singing that I hear."

In the original, singing translates as: sing or chanting with repetition - **literal going** through the motions.

They were in the right place but doing the wrong things. The dangers of going through the motions are catastrophic. They created a religious exercise void of the sound of HIM. Busyness doesn't produce the sound. My works, good ideas, and programs don't produce the sound. What produces the sound of Him in our lives is the response when He says, "WHERE ARE YOU?"

We reply I am here. Open to be imperfect, knowing You love me, knowing You know I am imperfect.

Our World needs a church who is in tune with the sound of HIM. The Church can make a noise and get noticed. But when it produces the sound God gets noticed. When He is lifted up....Changed and transformed lives happen! The noise of singing, politics, busyness, convenience, un-forgiviness, frustration, hatred, guilt, religion, programs, judgement. Those ALL produce a noise, they will never produce the sound.

What produces the sound? Authenticity produces the sound.

I KINGS 14:1-6 (ESV)

¹ At that time Abijah the son of Jeroboam fell sick. (Difficult Season) ² And Jeroboam said to his wife, "Arise, and disguise yourself, that it not be known that you are the wife of Jeroboam, and go to Shiloh. Behold, Ahijah the prophet is there, who said of me that I should be king over this people. (Seasons are the great revealer) ³ Take with you ten loaves, some cakes, and a jar of honey, and go to him. He will tell you what shall happen to the child." (Going to the right place with the wrong heart is still dangerous) ⁴ Jeroboam's wife did so. She arose and went to Shiloh and came to the house of Ahijah. Now Ahijah could not see, for his eyes were dim because of his age. ⁵ And the Lord said to Ahijah, "Behold, the wife of Jeroboam is coming to inquire of you concerning her son, for he is sick. Thus and thus shall you say to her." When she came, she pretended to be another woman. ⁶ But when Ahijah heard the sound of her feet, as she came in at the door, he said, "Come in, wife of Jeroboam. Why do you pretend to be another?

Pretending is the most dangerous Christian costume anyone person can put on. God knows. You know. Yet we can find ourselves caring more about the opinion of others than of God.

Jeroboam and his wife, knew enough be generous. (10 loaves, some cake, jar of honey). Knew enough to go to the prophet. Knew enough to seek the word of the Lord. They made the fatal mistake of not knowing that pretending was going to cost them their child. The prophet was blind **(God's truth's show no favorites).** The prophet heard **the sound of her feet** (he was tuned in). Why do you pretend to be another?

Being honest about the sound of your life is the key to living in harmony with God. Authenticity is the key to ANY relationship. The moment we play pretend we ruin relationship.

What can stop the sound? Circumstance shouldn't change the sound of your life, the sound of God through your life should change the circumstance.

ACTS 16:25-26 (ESV)

²⁵ About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, ²⁶ and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken.

Paul and Silas were masters of the sound. They realized their circumstance couldn't change the tune of a person's heart connected to God.

In their midnight hour. Locked up. They did nothing wrong. When they could have got bitter, frustrated, or annoyed. They released the sound. The sound of praising, nothing can stop a submitted heart whose trust in God cannot be shaken.

Are you in tune with the sound?

There is a cadence. The old timers would challenge us like this:

- Every time the doors are open you be there. (Are you going to be faithful?)
- Are you in the Word? (Get to the source!)
- Have you prayed over that? (Spend time with HIM)
- You are going to do great things for God! (Live a life of FAITH)

Stay in tune with the sound by spending time with the originator.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:51-53 (GW)

⁵¹ I'm telling you a mystery. Not all of us will die, but we will all be changed. ⁵² It will happen in an instant, **in a split second at the sound** of the last trumpet. Indeed, that trumpet will sound, and then the dead will come back to life. They will be changed so that they can live forever. ⁵³ This body that decays must be changed into a body that cannot decay. This mortal body must be changed into a body that will live forever.

How do I rediscover the Sound of Him in my life?

- Lower the other noises in my life
- Rediscover the Awe of God

Church sometimes can cause you to lose the awe of Him. Your eyes come off of Him...and onto them.

LUKE 5:26 (ESV) • EXODUS 15:11 (ESV) • PSALM 33:8 (ESV) PSALM 86:8-10 (ESV) • HEBREWS 12:28 (ESV)