

Listening For the Echo

I have experienced firsthand a deep sense of peace coming from the compassion of the many individuals caring for our family. It has been through their compassionate hearts that I have been able to fully witness the Power of One. I have heard the echo. I invite you to reflect with me on this topic, listening for the echo.

When your fear is great what do you do? The first thing I do is ask God to take away my fear. Then I call someone to tell them about my fear. Perhaps in some ways I am looking for them to remove my fear even after I have offered it to God and know full well that he is the only one powerful enough to remove my fear. It is, however, exactly what I do. I call someone so that I can hear a voice. It is what I have found myself doing right now during a family crisis. I offered my fear to God, asked him to remove my fear, and then called a long list of people to ask for their help. I needed to pray and I needed their prayers.

I wonder if I thought God would hear someone else's prayer better than my own. Did I think if I asked enough people to pray it would be like turning up the volume? God would certainly hear my need if I got enough volume behind it. I dialed one number after the other asking for prayers.

As it is with fear my body responded appropriately. I felt nauseous, sweaty yet cold, my mouth was dry, pretty much text book! It was my spirit that kept nudging me to make another call. Then it occurred to me the calls were needed as a support for my spirit. Each person granted me a compassionate ear and offered to prayer for healing and peace.

Even as I knelt in the chapel praying fervently I found myself dialing the phone again. I recalled the words found in Matthew 18:20, "For where there are two or three gathered together in my name there I am in the midst of them." I guess I felt that having a friend on the phone with me would fulfill this promise. It was at that time that I realized the depth of compassion being poured forth from others. Their care and concern for my family echoed God's response to my initial prayer request. The words being echoed were these, Tammy, sometimes I will calm the storm and sometimes I will calm you. Instantly the words of the song by Scott Krippayne, Sometimes He Calms the Storm, came rushing into my head. The song describes the power of God to either calm the storm or calm the child with the surety that indeed he will do one or the other. They kept repeating in my head.

I had not heard his response on my own. It needed to be echoed through the compassion of others. I realized what God was telling me was that these circumstances required a storm, a storm against an infection. What he needed me to do was remain calm and with a calm spirit I was better equipped to be a prayer warrior for my loved one. My renewed, engaged spirit remained calm and allowed me to be an instrument for the awesome power of God. Slowly and methodically I prayed for my loved one and 0.1 point at a time the storm (a raging fever) was calmed by the mighty hand of God.

As I write this reflection the storm continues. New waves of symptoms present themselves and I am reminded to listen for the echo. I must be open to the echoing message coming through the compassionate hearts of others. Listen for the echo. The compassionate hearts around you are echoing the power God in your life journey.

May God Bless you,
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