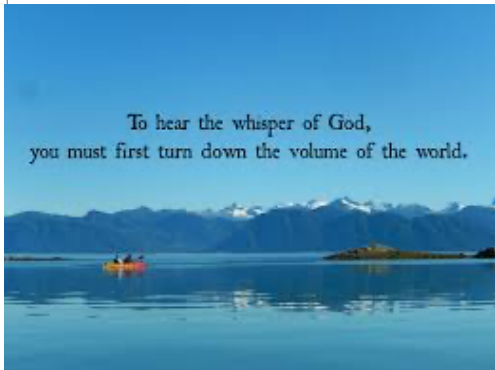


TRUE VINE TIMES



What is the Sabbath, I'd like to know.
 Do I not do anything just for show?
 In days of old, so I am told,
 Israel roamed in the desert hot and cold.
 Manna was provided the first six days,
 But day seven was meant for rest and praise.
 I surrender to this seventh day rest,
 Promising my God to do my best.
 To rest in Him and fellowship wholly,
 Letting go of things, worry and control fully.
 GOD RESTED and so can I—

~By *Sandra Meyers*

The Gentle Whisper

Scripture Reading — [1 Kings 19:1-18](#)

“And after the fire came a gentle whisper”

In many cultures around the world today, especially in cities, silence can be hard to find. Our lives are inundated with noise. Music is always playing somewhere close by. Other electronic devices like TVs or computers are a daily part of our existence. There's the sound of traffic, roadwork, lawnmowers, and more. Even when we escape the more obvious sources of noise, we often experience “white noise”—the hum of a refrigerator or the ticking of a clock. There's a conspiracy of noise all around us!

If we never withdraw from the hustle and bustle, the constant flurry of activity swirling around us, we run a great risk. Constant noise can drown out the voice of God in our lives until it can barely be heard. Mother Teresa once said, “We need to find God ... [but] he cannot be found in noise and restlessness. God is the friend of silence.”

Elijah discovered that God rarely shouts. He wasn't found in the violent wind, the earthquake, or the flash fire. Instead, God made himself present to Elijah through a gentle whisper. God's signature is a still, small voice. In order to hear it, you have to be still.

Prayer

O whispering God, I need to create opportunities to withdraw from the demands of my day to a quiet place where I can be fully attentive to you. Help me train my spirit to hear your Spirit. Amen.

Shawn Brix Devotional Today July 6, 2013

CHECKING IN:

I connected with **Wendy Shultz** over the phone this week. Wendy reports that over all, their family is doing good. They are grieving the loss of her dad, who passed away about 3 months ago. Wendy said her mom has moved up from Florida to WNY and is living with her sister, Karen, here in the Akron area. At the time of my call, Wendy was helping her niece, Allie, prepare to move to Syracuse. Wendy would appreciate prayer for her family as they continue to process the loss of her dad, as well as other changes occurring.

I also called called **Megan Brown**. It was great to hear her ever cheerful voice! Megan is hanging in there as we all are during this pandemic. Megan reports her adopted horse Theo, is doing well. He is thriving and is now 7 years old. Megan is working at Wisdom Farms and truly loves her work. She sends her well wishes to all the church and looks forward to when we'll all be together again.

Cochren & Co. - One Day (Official Lyric Video)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=So94m-Lp6Pw>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=So94m-Lp6Pw>

Well, it is 239 days till our BEAVER CAMP 2021 retreat!



