

NOISE

Is there a lot of noise in your life? I don't mean the lawn mower while someone is cutting your grass. I don't mean the neighbor kid revving his engine up as he drives by. I don't mean the cartoons the children watch just before they start jumping and screaming. I mean when it's a tough day. I mean the basement floods and you are all alone waiting for the plumber to replace the sump pump. I mean the studying that you need to do to take a test. The bills you need to sit down and pay. The bathroom that needs to be cleaned. The laundry. The oil change on the car. The responsibilities that pile up can be noisy. The stress from these responsibilities can be overwhelming. The doctor's appointment that you don't want to go to because nothing good can come of it. The bank account that you really hate to look at because you know it's almost gone. I heard of a lady, whose husband had been murdered. On top of dealing with all the issues a young mom has she had to do them alone and she had to go to the trial of the murderer. WOW! That does seem hard! She tells the story of leaving court one day almost 2 yrs after the murder of her husband and realizing how exhausted she was. EVERY mom gets exhausted, but she had some real challenges. She stopped at the grocery store to get something for dinner. She was asking God why this had to be so hard and when would it "break". When would things get easier, when she brushed against another lady. She noticed the woman had a very blank look on her face. God told her to go help that lady. She brushed it off and proceeded to look for what she wanted. Again, she ran into the lady and God said, "go help her". The 2nd time she also brushed it off and kept shopping. The 3rd time she ran into the woman, He seemed to be more insistent. "Give her some money". Well, she thought, I don't even carry money. But she opened her purse and started to dig thru it. Finally, she found something all wadded up in a small corner of the purse. It was a \$100 bill. So, she walked up to the woman and said, "I want you to have this". The woman looked up and said, "how did you know? I have been walking thru the store trying to find something to feed my family but all I have is \$13". Her answer was this. "I love a God who sees us. He wants you to know that you matter. That he sees your tears, He watches over you and the children." They hugged and went their separate ways. She said that it changed her life to look outside of herself and focus on another's needs for a change. Dwelling on ourselves is not what God intended, but helping others IS

what He intended. I remember one time while I was in some type of “crisis” someone told me, “Well, remember, this is not our home, when you get to heaven, it will be perfect”. Now, I was about 27 at the time and thought, gee, do I have to wait that long?

Psalm 27: 13 *I would have lost heart, unless I had believed*
That I would see the goodness of the LORD, In the land of the living.

God knows us. He sees us. The promise of heaven is amazing. But He knew that we are impatient people. We are forgetful of His grace and gifts. He knew that we couldn't have just negative things in our lives here, unless we had the promise of “goodness” here as well. When I think about how He anticipated our needs when He breathed His words into the Bible, it is amazing. The Bible has given us words for every situation that we would face. He knew from the beginning of time what we would encounter. Each and every one of us. His Grace, Peace, Love and Blessings are not just for the “other guy”. He sees every tear you cry and wants to comfort you. He sees every belly laugh and giggle and wants to celebrate with you. Lord, we know that heaven is going to be amazing. Some days our cry is “Come Lord Jesus”. But for the days that you don't come, help us to feel you near whether we are crying or celebrating. Rejoicing or down. We know you are here with us.
Amen

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