

### *Listen*

*Whenever God gives a vision to a believer, it is as if He puts him in the shadow of His hand. Our duty is to be still and listen.*

*(E. Stanley Jones)*

Hannah Moore accurately describes our response to love, “Love never reasons but profusely gives; gives like a thoughtless prodigal its all, and trembles lest it has done too little.” To momentarily lose touch with this world and become excited with the greatness of God’s person is an experience above all others. It’s easy to envision ourselves accomplishing some great feat during these times. It happened to Christ’s disciples.

The Apostle Peter was one of three disciples who accompanied Jesus to the top of a high mountain. His countenance was transformed and He began to glow as the noon day sun. Then Moses and Elijah appeared on the mountain and talked with Jesus about his death on the cross (Luke 9:30-31).

Peter, enraptured by God’s glory blurted out, “Let’s build three temples here: one for You, one for Moses and one for Elijah. This was a defining moment but Peter missed the point. He began making plans for God instead of allowing God to make plans for him. God corrected Peter for his impulsive and impetuous idea saying, “This is my beloved Son ... listen to Him!” One perceptive individual said, “It takes a great deal of security to go into a deep listening experience because you open yourself to be influenced. You become vulnerable. It’s a paradox, in a sense, because in order to have influence, you have to be influenced.”

God got Peter’s attention. He fell on his face in fear and did not speak another word. One second in God’s awesome presence changed everything. Peter’s focus shifted. He became enraptured with God and abandoned his presumptuous plans. And this is the place, that place of awe and reverence for God, where we discover the purpose for our existence. Oswald Chambers said, “We must grow beyond the place of spiritual excitement and abandon our pretensions of thinking we know what it is that God should do.” Refuse to allow yourself to become like so many who never rise above the spiritually excited mind stage and miss the point. Do yourself a favor: quit talking—listen; don’t make plans—take notes.

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