



“Whatever course you decide upon, there is always someone to tell you that you are wrong. There are always difficulties arising which tempt you to believe that your critics are right. To map out a course of action and follow it to an end requires courage.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson
Essayist
(1803–1882)

Shhhhh... Listen. Be very quiet. Be very still. What do you hear?

There is just so much noise right now, isn't there? Politicians of all stripes and political pundits on the TV are often screaming (sometimes, literally) to get your attention and to tell you what to think. But in all that noise, will you find truth? What is truth – and where can you find it?

Recall that beautiful story of the prophet Elijah searching for God. He went up on the mountain and there a great and strong wind came forth but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind, there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake, there was a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. But, then, came a very gentle blowing and upon it, Elijah covered his face for there the Lord was present (1 Kings 19: 11–13).

So, sometimes, we need to find the quiet place to just “be”. There we can hear God’s voice and experience truth. Not in the loud voices. Not in the critics that demean you. Not in the temptations that confront you. Not in the frustrations that can discourage you. Sometimes you might just need to remove yourself from all of that to just “be” – to just be still, be quiet and, eventually, be in the presence of your

God will bestow upon you His countenance, His truth, His sustenance and His courage.