

Introduction



Are you listening to life?

As a two-year-old, our older daughter was determined to interrupt my precious moments of important newspaper reading.

“Daddy, I want to tell you something,” she said.

“Go ahead,” I replied never moving the paper.

“Daddy, I want to tell you something,” she said, only this time with a little more urgency.

“Go ahead I said,” still not moving the paper.

Smashing my paper with her tiny hands, she said, “Daddy, I want you to listen with your eyes.”

There are so many things in life that seem important to us. So many things that we feel like we have to do at least two things at once—reading and listening—every waking moment.

But there are some things in life that need our undivided attention, our ears and our eyes. They demand that we listen. Our children are one. God is another. And I’m convinced that God speaks to us through our children and through life events that seem innocent enough on the surface but actually cradle

God's spiritual desire to connect us with a love that's beyond our craziest dreams and wildest imagination.

I know because I've been connected with God's love through my family and other life events that seemed trivial at the time, but on reflection spoke the whispering voice of God. Now I'm no more special or spiritual than you. I'm just someone who had the newspaper smashed by his daughter, listened to that life event, and decided God was in it.

I believe you can do the same. I believe that you can listen to your life, hear God whispering love to you, and connect with that love. And that's the purpose of this book—to connect you with God's love through everyday stories.

You can read this book alone or with a group of friends. By reading it alone, you can spend some time with each story, think about the reflection questions after each story, and even jot down your thoughts and feelings. Or, you can read this book and then get together once a week with a group of friends, talk about the story for that week, (there are enough for a year), and then discuss the reflection questions.

My hope for you is that by reading this book, you'll say to yourself, "Hey! That's happened to me before!" or "I never thought about it that way." Either way, I hope that you'll start listening to life today for what God has to say—with your ears and your eyes...and your spirit.