



WOW: Word Of the Week

Monologue

February 22, 2023

I share my heart, a struggle. Most have heard it at some time – prayer is listening and talking; it is a conversation with God. How incredible to come into His presence. Yet, we often do something in prayer that we want to avoid in other conversations – we talk, talk, talk! The line of communication is one way: us talking to Him. I understand the challenge in public prayers, but let's talk about our personal prayer time with God.

Do we ever listen and then respond? When we talk, do we listen for His response? Conversation and communication are never one way. That's called a monologue! Our WOW – not something to seek, something to avoid. A reminder. Monologue. No!

Isaiah responded (6:8) because he was listening. "Who shall I send and who will go?" Let us hear God's words and know His heart. Christianity is relational. That's why Bible reading and prayer go hand in hand so naturally. What did Eli teach the boy Samuel? To hear and respond, listen and obey.

Monologue. What to take away? To have encounter with God requires a listening ear and an understanding heart. Make time, make space in your life for that encounter. Yes, we pour out our hearts and express our love and admiration for our God. Will you also let him pour out his heart and express his love and affection for you?

We praise him, we admit our failures, we make requests, we are thankful. Conversation, relationship – not mere monologue.

Frances Havergal, in 1872, wrote these words:

1 Lord, speak to me that I may speak, In living echoes of your tone.

As you have sought, so let me seek, Your erring children, lost and lone.

2 Oh, lead me, Lord, that I may lead, The wand'ring and the wav'ring feet.

Oh, feed me, Lord, that I may feed, Your hungry ones with manna sweet.

3 Oh, teach me, Lord, that I may teach, The precious truths which you impart.

And wing my words that they may reach, The hidden depths of many a heart.