



Breakthrough Prayer

Dear God, fill us with Your wisdom and courage as we seek Your will for Oak Grove UMC. Empower us to follow You in serving our families, our church, our community, and our world. Help us be aware of what You are trying to do with us and through us so that we may grow Your kingdom. Amen.

1 Kings 9:11-12 (NLT)

¹¹ “Go out and stand before me on the mountain,” the Lord told him. And as Elijah stood there, the Lord passed by, and a mighty windstorm hit the mountain. It was such a terrible blast that the rocks were torn loose, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. ¹² And after the earthquake there was a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there was the sound of a gentle whisper.

Slowing down to LISTEN

“Perhaps the real problem with spiritual growth lies not with time but with our expectations. Since information travels at rates approaching the speed of light, we expect transformation to do the same. We want to grow faster and go faster than ever before... Spiritual transformation and growth, however, travels more at the speed of sound ... We grow as we attend to the sound of God’s love. ...God is not shyly hiding in the greenroom awaiting just the right atmosphere to make an appearance during a church service or meeting. Nor is God coyly withholding presence from us until we play a certain song, open a specific book or say a certain prayer.”

- Excerpt from Alicia Britt Chole, *The Sacred Slow*

Reflection Questions

- How might slowing down to hear the sound of God’s love help you grow in your faith?
- How could practicing this spiritual discipline help our teams connect with each other and our surrounding community?