Be Known, the Podcast

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Episode 91: God Hears

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This is Be Known, and I’m Kerrah Fabacher. You’re listening to episode \_\_\_91\_\_\_. We were made for relationship, but so often our relationships are broken. And when our relationships are broken, we are broken. One of our deepest human desires is to be known, but we often have lost ourselves along the way. This is a podcast to help you get your relationships back to a place of wholeness. A place of authentic connection, where you feel truly known.

So come on in and sit a while. Let’s exchange fear for love and finally see what good relationships are made of.

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I have a tattoo that says “you are the God who sees.” It’s from the story of Hagar in Genesis 16, a girl who was Abraham and Sarah’s slave. A girl who was forced to sleep with Abraham in order to become pregnant since Sarah still wasn’t getting pregnant after God promised her a son. So because God wasn’t doing what He promised quick enough for Sarah, she took matters into her own hands and forced her slave to sleep with her husband to produce a son.

Long story short, Sarah wasn’t happy Hagar conceived even though that was the plan.

And Hagar was severely mistreated— probably abused. And so she fled.

And God met her in the wilderness.

And because of his kindness to her, she became the first person to give God a name in the Old Testament. A slave girl. An abused girl. She called him “El Roi,” the God who sees.

I got this tattoo because I needed the constant reminder that He sees me, too. That he sees my pain. He sees my tears. He sees my numbness and how I often am just surviving. He sees my longings and needs and my past, present, and future. He sees it all.

It all matters to him.

Well until recently hearing Jackie Hill Perry at the Glory Conference talk about this passage, I’d never once stayed too long on another important name. God told Hagar to name her son “Ishmael,” which means, God hears.

And Jackie told us that there is no record of Hagar crying out to God in the wilderness for help before he met her there. “It was almost as though her pain had a sound,” Jackie said.

Like her grief and fear and anger and heartache was loud enough to move God to action— to move Him to meet her in the wilderness. Without her even having to ask.

And he wanted her to remember he heard her pain every time she said her son’s name. And that He was going to take care of her, though she would be going back to the very family who abused her. That He would make her son a great nation, too.

He hears.

He sees, yes.

He sees our pain. Our distress. Our heartache and brokenness and depression and grief. He sees our anxiety and PTSD and financial problems and family dysfunction and loneliness and despair. He sees.

But he also hears.

Even when we don’t call on Him.

Even when our pain is so great, we’re silent.

That silence has a sound.

And he hears it.

This episode is simple today.

I only wanted you to know that He sees you. And he hears you, too.

You matter.

You matter deeply to Him.

So I’d like to end today with a blessing. A blessing for those who need to remember this truth.

\*\*\* Enter music\*\*\*

There are moments when we look around and find ourselves lost.

In places we can’t find others.

Where we can’t find ourselves.

And we can’t find God.

There is only numbness now.

If we’d muster the energy, we’d be be able to look back and see the place where we came.

The thing that happened.

The loss.

The betrayal.

The hurt.

The pain.

We’d be able to look back and see what happened that brought us here to this place.

This place where we are wandering lost.

Where we feel we have no one. Nothing.

And our despair is so great we can’t even speak it.

In that place,

May we remember that though we cannot feel Him, or see Him all the time,

He is there.

He is there behind us.

Before us.

Around us.

He is there. And he sees.

He saw it when it happened.

And he sees us now.

Lost and alone and numb.

He sees.

And though we’ve not been able to speak a word,

He hears our tormented souls crying out to him.

May we always remember we are not alone.

May we always remember he sees, he hears, and he will not leave us lost.

We are found.

Amen.

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Thanks for sitting a while with me. I trust that knowing God hears you even when you don’t make a sound will help you take a step toward wholeness so you can finally see what good relationships are made of.

Until next time friend, I’ll see you soon.