

*"And that ye STUDY to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you;" 1 Thessalonians 4:11 KJV*



Our first instinct when in the presence of persons of great power and authority is to be quiet and still. All the connotations, definitions, and meanings of “*quiet*” can be summarized by one word: STILL. “*Stand in awe, and sin not: commune with your own heart (thoughts) upon your bed, and...be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.*” If we are ever to know God we must be very, very still in our thoughts as we meditate upon the Word of God we have studied and read. We must quiet our heart and listen for the Voice of Truth which only speaks to the mind and heart of those who know God’s Word and have diligently sought God with their whole heart! You must know God on purpose. “*He is a rewarder of them that DILIGENTLY seek Him.*” God will not share His Voice with any other thought. Satan fills our lives with busy, go, and do, purposely constraining our time for God. “*Those that seek me early (first) shall find me.*” Growing up in the Amazon Rainforest, we had to hunt and fish for food and I had to learn how to be still and listen. I’ve spent many hours in a canoe in the rain patiently fishing for big river catfish. You can’t do it in a hurry. You don’t hunt with your eyes in the jungle; you hunt with your ears. To hear the low rustle of fur on leaf and the quiet footsteps of animals on the wet jungle floor, you had to be very still. You had to walk quietly, stopping often, and only listening for several minutes at a time. You had to slow your heartbeat, lower your breathing, and remain motionless while remaining keenly alert to the slightest sound and movement. It’s amazing what you can hear and see if you just “*study to be quiet.*” Many times butterflies would tickle my neck and curious bees and wasps would inspect my nose while I listened. I was once inspected by a beautiful jaguar as she looked for a place to sleep for the day. I watched intently, rifle ready, until she melted back into the jungle. I remained still for another half hour to make sure she had gone. I would study the translucent leaves, flower petals, and giant six foot gossamer spider webs as fingers of sunlight through the canopy plied images upon their surfaces. I would watch the pouring rain rivulet from leaf to stem and back to leaf, animating vines as they dropped 100’s of feet to the jungle floor. I would watch leaves fill and gracefully release their cargo, rising yet again for another load. I could feel rain droplets as they ran down my arms to drip off my fingertips as I sheltered under a giant Elephant Ear leaf or the broad leaves of a Traveler’s tree. Even after the roar of the storm would pass the jungle kept raining for another twenty minutes and once again, fingers of sunlight filtered to the forest floor.

In the quiet still of heart and mind,  
The Great Creator you will find,  
His presence will your soul caress,  
And you will know full blessedness. ~CGP

In the rainforest I had time to ponder and wonder at the intricate infrastructure of the Creator and marvel at His majestically woven tapestry of life, but...I had to study to be still and learn quietness. You have to be quiet and still to hear God. If you look for God you will find Him, but you have to do it ever so quietly. “*Great peace have they which love Thy Law, and nothing shall offend them!*” Turn off man’s music and noise, and listen to the soft chorus of the heavenlies as the “*still small Voice*” whispers in your thoughts the Words of Love and Truth from your God!

*"I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me." Proverbs 8:17 KJV*