

My Middle Name

Description

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Jonah 3:1-10

My mom was not a yeller. As a matter of fact, I cannot recall a time that she raised her voice to get her point across. I can recall, however, interpreting her level of urgency by her tone and hearing my first and middle name. Both of these indicated that something was about to go down!

If we jump straight into verse two of this passage, it is easy to hear the tone of God as instructive, but not necessarily urgent. When we start with verse one, we see that God might be getting ready to use Jonah's middle name, "Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time."

I wish I could say: I always listen to wise counsel the first time it is given. I always respond to promptings the moment I recognize that God has something to say to me. I wish I could say God never has to use my middle name.

None of these would be true.

As one of those who have been invited to be the voice of God to the world, it is my earnest prayer that I would quickly hear and be ready to move in perfect cooperation the first time.

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