

Week 10
63/302

Transforming Daily
“... but the lord was not in the wind ...”
1 Kings 19:11

A few years ago my family and I served at a church in the Everglades. The Everglades is a strange, but welcoming place. There's a single coveted resource in the Everglades and that is "muck." "Muck" is basically lake-bottom. "Peat" is another name for it. The locals have a saying that emphasizes the richness of "muck" that "if you drop a dime in the muck in the morning, it will be a dollar by lunch time." When the fields are fallow in the Everglades, they are extremely dry and dusty. So when the winds kick up, "dust devils" are a very common occurrence. Tall, dark, funnels can be seen for miles resembling smoke from a fire. Unlike most "dust devils," "muck devils" can last for minutes at a time and cover a great deal of area.

One day I saw one of these "muck devils" form, and I wanted to experience just how powerful they were. I jumped in my truck and drove as fast as I could (that is as fast as the speed limit would allow) to catch the action. As I got closer it appeared that the "muck devil" was dissipating, and sure enough as I got to the spot where I first saw the "muck devil," it was gone, or so I thought. I looked in my rearview mirror, and there it was. So I turned around and chased after it again only to experience the first disappointment that when reaching the spot where I saw the "muck devil," it was gone. However, when I looked in my rearview mirror, there it was. For the third time I chased after the "muck devil," and for the third time it appeared to disappear. Only this time when I arrived at the spot where I thought the "muck devil" to be, I saw something glistening on my dashboard and on the other interior surfaces of my truck. All of a sudden it struck me, "I'm in the midst of the whirlwind!" "But where was the power?" I thought to myself. There wasn't any. The power of the muck wasn't in the form of a swirling, wind filled, dirt devil, but in its quiet characteristic to bring forth and grow healthy crops.

Mind numbing frenzy and spirit desensitizing activity isn't the demarcation of the power and presence of God. Often we may find ourselves in the midst of God's purpose and plan for our lives when everything is quiet and still. Keep in mind that in the narrative of 1 Kings there was not only a strong wind, but also a powerful earthquake, and consuming fire. Yet it was through the still small voice that God spoke to Elijah.

Do you have a quiet time with God? Have you recently taken the time for personal devotion through Bible reading and prayer? Why not take time right now to be still before God and hear His still small voice?