

# Glimpses of His Heart

## God's Guys and God's Girls Small Groups

*Bold words are God's words to me through my journaling.*

**"A new mission field will open up and in a most unlikely place. It will be hard but rewarding, My child. And you will see the salvation of others through the fruit of your labor."** I wrote these words on June 29, 2007 in my journal during my quiet time before the Lord. I saw a picture of African American faces and I wondered...



Up to this point my life primarily intersected with people just like me – white, Christian, and active within the church walls. Five months later I found myself on the front porch of an inner city home interceding for friends while they were leading a children's Bible Club on Saturday afternoons.



**"Invest in a generation that seems lost to most."** Before long God was knitting my heart to children in the inner city and He was also stirring up my passion – connecting others to God's heart through an intimate relationship with Him. Emboldened by God's words to me through my journaling, I began to ask children if they would be interested in meeting with me for an hour in a small group for several weeks to learn how to hear God's voice. I am still amazed at

the openness in the children not only to the things of God but also to me. Truly the Holy Spirit has gone before me and prepared their hearts to meet with someone who has spent most of her life living in small Midwestern towns totally unaware of inner city life.

**"I can take a small offering and multiply its impact. Though it may seem hidden, the impact will be felt for miles."** Though we have met in group sizes of seven or eight, I have found that keeping the size to four or less works best to be able to give more individual attention. We chose to name our small groups "God's Guys" and "God's Girls."

**"Bring My children to Me and teach them to sit at My feet. Show them how, child."** The children fall into three categories: knowing little if anything about Jesus and the Bible, having head knowledge but not heart revelation, or being saved yet not knowing how to hear God's voice.





**"I have entrusted My children to you for a little while."** It's been one year since the first small group began. More than thirty children have since learned to hear God's voice, six children have received Jesus as their Savior, relevant and personal relationships with Jesus have been ignited, many are teaching other children and adults how to hear God's voice and one life has been saved (through one girl teaching her suicidal friend to hear God's voice at school)!

**"Sit at My feet, then teach My children to dance the dance of intimacy with Me."** What I love about teaching the children how to hear God's voice is that they don't have to be "untaught" religious ways or be "convinced" that God still speaks to His people today. I share Scriptures with them that confirm that we can hear His voice and they simply believe that they can...and they do!

**"The "big top" is moveable and you will move as it moves."** Because this is a mobile neighborhood ministry, our meeting location varies. Often we will meet at a picnic table, Burger King, my vehicle or a nearby center. All materials - pencils, small spiral journals, Bibles, books and snacks - are kept and transported in my "portable filing cabinet" each week which is the back of my vehicle. There are plans underway to put up a small canopy in a front yard in another neighborhood during summer weekdays to reach new children.



**"And you shall speak destiny and words of life over My children."** One of the things the Lord has me do is to journal for each of the children, too. I then write in their journals what I've heard. They love to hear what God is saying to me about them!!! Through the small group settings, strong relationships between us have been formed and each child will be forever in my heart.

**"Continue to plow amongst the children teaching them to learn to hear My still small voice."** Each week I hold up a sheet of paper with the "Steps to Hearing God's Voice" printed on it and together we repeat aloud the "steps" and the "special key" as well as doing the corresponding hand motions. While I was in Toronto a few years back during the DVD taping of *How to Hear God's Voice*, I had felt silly when Dr. Virkler made all the adults do the hand motions to the four steps...but I am now glad that I paid attention!

**"...And they in turn will teach others."** I think the mark of disciples are when they are in turn training others and applying what they are learning in every day life. Whenever a new child comes to a group, which happens quite often, I have the children teach the "steps" to the new



ones. Now I'm getting lots of reports of them teaching others to hear God's voice outside of our small groups!

**"I will use you as a catalyst in the lives of others."** I received a profound vision last fall. The Lord brought to me a picture that I have "painted" many times for the children when they are learning to picture Jesus and to hear His voice. Jesus was sitting on a hillside next to the Sea of Galilee. Before Him were many children sitting at His feet holding spiral journals like I give them when they come to God's Guys or Girls. They were intently writing down His words to them. I was standing under a nearby tree on the sidelines, just like a coach would be. Periodically a child would get up and leave the group and then back they would come bringing another child or even adult with them to sit at Jesus' feet with them. I wept as I saw the impact of God multiplying the simple obedience of bringing to Him my "5 loaves and 2 fish".

*Steps are an adapted children's version taken from "How to Hear God's Voice".*

## **Steps to Hearing God's Voice**

- 1. I quiet myself.**
- 2. I picture Jesus.**
- 3. I tune to the flow of words and pictures that gently light upon my heart.**
- 4. I write it down.**

**God's thoughts are loving, gentle, kind, encouraging, comforting and full of truth, just like He is.**

### **Special Key**

**Stay focused on Jesus and *not* on what or who I am praying about.**

## **Sample Journaling and Testimonies**



**From a 13 year old boy** - I learned the steps to hear God's voice the first time I came to God's Guys and guess what! I heard God speak to me for the first time in my life! I saw a picture of Jesus while I was seeing myself back in Bible times standing under a tree with others waiting for Him to come and speak to us. He looked right at me with a smile on His face while saying, "Come here." I walked over to Him and He said, "I love you with all of My heart and I want you to tell others to believe in Me."

**From a 12 year old girl** - I saw a picture of Jesus holding a red flower out to me. I asked Him what the color red stood for. He said, "It stands for My blood running through your body."

**From a 13 year old boy** - I looked for vision and I saw Jesus die in pain and peace on the cross. Afterward I pictured Him and me standing at the tomb. I asked Him if He still loved me even after the cross. He said, "Yes, I still love you and everyone on the earth."

**From an 11 year old boy** - I was on top of a mountain with God. He said, "I love you with all of My heart. You are My son." Then He told me to look over the side so that I could watch a scene that happened long ago. A young boy was there with a bunch of people who God said were like slaves to someone. There was this great big guy like a giant or something. God told me the young boy's name was David. David reached down and picked up this small rock. He put it in something like a slingshot and swung it around his head before he threw it at this giant. The rock flew toward the giant and hit him in the forehead. He fell over dead. God told me that this really happened.



I asked Gina about it and she said that it is in the Bible. I had never heard of David or this giant. She told me to ask God what the name of the giant was. God told me his name was Goliath. Sure enough she said I was hearing from God because that was his name! We talked about what the giants might be in my own life and how I could stand in faith and speak God's words to them.

**From a 14 year old boy** - *He drew several profound pictures of what he saw. He described them this way:* This is Jesus on the cross. On this side of the cross are these big drops that look like rain but they are actually God's tears. On the other side of the cross are the lightening bolts of power when Jesus died.

Another time I saw the cross with big wings over it. Maybe God is saying there is protection when we stand under the cross of Jesus.

**From an 11 year old boy** - I was in a corn field. Jesus lifted me up to heaven. I saw the streets of gold and the words of the fruit of the Spirit were written on some of the street bricks. God was sitting on a big chair. Jesus took me over to God and I sat in God's hand. He was happy to see me. I felt full of happiness and was very peaceful in my heart. *(Note: the Presence of God was very strong in the room while he was experiencing and sharing this with me!)*



**From a 14 year old girl** - Since coming to God's Girls these weeks I have learned to explore my feelings for God. Before I wasn't sure when it was God talking to me or just my own thoughts that I was hearing. But

now I know when He is the one talking. I actually have a better idea of what I'm supposed to do in life too after spending time with God listening to what He has to say to me.

**From a 16 year old boy** - I saw Jesus and me while standing under a tree. At first I was standing in a crowd of people but then when He was walking toward me it was as if the people around me vanished and it was just Jesus and me. I said to Jesus, "I know that



You love me, but could I hear You say it?" It was like His words just fluttered across my heart that He loved me. Then I saw Him change in an instant into wearing a white robe while He stretched wide His arms.

**From an 11 year old boy** - I asked my teacher if I could leave the room for a minute and she said yes at first but then she began to yell at me when I started to leave. I sat down at my desk feeling angry and embarrassed. I did the steps then and Jesus said, "Be still and I will make the spirit of anger go away." While I was looking at Jesus the anger disappeared and I forgave my teacher.

**From a 10 year old boy** - I asked God about the problem I was having at school. He told me, "Don't hang with the buzzards but hang with the eagles, son." I asked God who the buzzards and eagles are and He said the buzzards are the people who hate God and the eagles are the ones who love God.

**From an 11 year old boy** - I asked Jesus if there were people that I still needed to forgive. He showed me faces of three people. I then pictured each one with Jesus. This made my heart feel softer toward them. I asked Jesus to forgive me for not forgiving them right away. Then I asked Him to show me a picture of what He did in my heart when I forgave them. I saw a circle that was filled with the color black. Then He turned over the circle and now it was all white.



**From a 13 year old girl** - A boy harassed me and I would have hit him but then I pictured Jesus. I asked Him about it and He told me to relax and stay calm so I turned away and talked to a friend instead.

**From a 13 year old boy** - Jesus showed me a scene of when I was beating up my little sister. I felt awful seeing it from His perspective.

My shoulders felt heavy with a big weight from it all. I learned that this was because I hadn't ever repented of what happened. I brought it to Jesus and asked Him to forgive me. I could not believe how much lighter my shoulders felt. I asked Jesus to show me a picture of what had happened. I saw myself holding my sin in my hands giving it to Jesus. He took it in His hands and then He disposed of it and I couldn't see the sin anymore! Afterward I felt so clean inside!



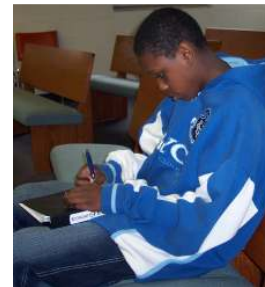
**From a 12 year old girl** - At school last week I was walking to chorus and I accidentally bumped into another girl who immediately slapped me thinking I had done this on purpose. My friend (who has come with me to God's Girls a couple of times) slapped this girl back on my behalf. Later I said to my friend, "You shouldn't have hit her. Remember what Miss Gina has taught us about the steps? Well, we should do them now and see what God has to say about this." We did the steps and asked God what we should do. He told us to talk this out between the three of us. My friend and I asked this girl to meet us in the bathroom after school. I told the girl that my friend and I had prayed and God told us some things we were to say to her. We told her what God had said and then we apologized to each other and prayed together just like He told us.



**From an 11 year old girl** - I was playing with my friend Maria on the playground at school. A friend of ours came over to us and was acting mean because she heard we were saying bad things about her and that she didn't want to be our friend anymore. At first we got mad but then I told Maria we should ask God about it. So I taught her the steps to hear God's voice on the playground. I got stuck on the third step and then I started doing the actions and I remembered it was to tune to the flow. We did the steps together and we heard from God what we should do. We went over to the other girl and told her that God wanted us to tell her that we didn't say those things about her and would she still please be our friend? We are all friends with each other again.

**From a 9 year old boy** - While I was at my uncle's house I shared with everyone the steps to hearing God's voice. There were lots of us (aunts, uncles, cousins, grandparents and my mom). I described a Bible scene just like Gina does that everybody pictured with me. It was of a mountain and Jesus was waiting for each of them at the top.

One of my uncles who used to go to church heard God say to him that if he would appreciate what Jesus had done for him on the cross and go back to church he would be able to turn his life around. And guess what??? He told us he wants to do just that!



Everybody heard God speak to them and there was excitement in the room!!! God later thanked me for doing this for Him. Then I saw Jesus give me a great big hug and it felt good.

**From a 14 year old girl** - Jesus has told me that I have a bright future ahead of me and that He will always love me.

**From two girls ages 11 and 12** - We were at a fish fry with a friend who has come sometimes to God's Girls. She stole something at the fish fry and we were going to leave her there because of what she did. But then we decided to do the steps and ask God what to do. He told us to talk with her about what she did. So we reminded her of what Miss Gina has taught us and how when we break one of the Ten Commandments we have sinned and we need to ask God for forgiveness. Our friend asked us to pray with her while she told Jesus she was sorry and so that she wouldn't be tempted to steal again and we did.

**From a 13 year old boy** - A kid at school was saying negative things about my mother and me in a fit of anger toward me. Normally I would have hit him good. But I stopped myself from responding and pictured Jesus to see what I should do. Jesus told me, "Just walk away and let him cool down", so I did.

**From a 16 year old girl** - I saw a picture of Jesus standing looking at me and I heard Him say, "Come to Me." There were lots of road signs around Him and they all had arrows on them and the signs were all pointing to Him.

**From a 9 year old boy** - I've even shared with one of my school teachers how to hear God's voice too. She said she had been a Christian all of her life but she had never heard God's voice speak to her.

**From an 11 year old girl** - A boy at school threw a floor scooter toward me really hard and it pinched my fingers. I started to punch him for this but I stopped and pictured Jesus. I heard Him say, "Quiet yourself and relax while you simply walk away." It was hard to do this but I wanted to do what Jesus told me. Later I thought about what happened and I was glad I followed what Jesus told me.



**From a 12 year old girl** - Jesus said to me, "You are My child and I want you to be yourself and not to be someone else you don't even know."

**From a 9 year old boy** - A boy tried to hit me at school and just as I was getting ready to haul off and hit him back, I remembered Jesus and the steps. Jesus said, "Don't hit him. You could hurt him and you could also get suspended again." I had been suspended before for getting in a fight. Jesus was right so I didn't get into a fight and instead I walked away.



**From a 13 year old boy** - Last week I told my mom the steps and hand motions of how to hear God's voice. She asked me to teach it to our family so I taught my step dad, brother and sisters too. Everybody wrote down what they heard God say to them and then we took turns sharing what we heard.

Later I shared the steps with my grandmother. She told me

she prays every night and she believes that God hears her but she had never heard His voice. She asked me to write down the steps for her so she could try this new way that night. She called me the next morning to tell me that for the first time in her life she heard God speak to her!

When I journaled about what happened with my family, Jesus told me that whenever anyone wants wisdom just to show them the way to talk to Him.



And this is all because of one lady - Miss Gina - because she came here to teach us how to hear God's voice. And look what we kids are now doing!

**From a 16 year old boy** - My mom keeps my journal in a special box right next to her Bible. I still journal a few times each week since completing Level 1 of God's Guys.

**From a 13 year old girl** - If I hadn't met with Gina these months to learn to hear God's voice, I don't know where I'd be right now. She helped me so much that I was able to help a friend who was considering suicide. I taught her to hear God's voice for herself in the girl's bathroom at school. Once she heard what God had to say to her, how much He loved her and had a plan for her life, she decided not to kill herself.

**From a 10 year old girl** - When I asked God what He wanted me to tell Miss Gina, I heard Him say, "Tell her 'thank you for teaching you to hear My voice'."

*Luke 18:16 But Jesus called the children to him and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."*

Recently I taught my 3 ½ year old grandson to picture Jesus. He saw Jesus and him walking alongside a lake holding hands. This was so real for him that periodically he refers to it. Another time he pictured Jesus and saw that He was sad because He was looking for His lost sheep. A few seconds later he reported Jesus was now happy because His sheep had come back to Him. I asked him what Jesus looked like to which he replied, "He has long hair and He wears a dress."

I reconnected with a friend who has a 4 year old daughter. Though my friend had taught her daughter about Jesus, the Bible and how to pray, she had not thought about teaching her to hear God's voice at such a young age. Later that day, armed with the "Steps to Hearing God's Voice", she taught her daughter to picture Jesus, to ask Him a question and hear His response.

My friend, who has a heart for her neighborhood children, had planned this summer to meet with them in her yard. She envisioned putting a large quilt on her lawn and then teaching children Bible stories while sitting on the quilt. She now plans to also teach them to hear God's voice.

**What about you?** Is something stirring deep within you? Do you have a heart to sow into the next generation? I encourage you to take time to seek the Lord and then journal what He speaks to you. You may be surprised to learn that though God promises to protect us, He does not promise to keep us safe...inside the church walls!!!