

# “UNSPOKEN TRUTHS ARE SPOKEN EVERYWHERE.”

St T's Weekly Devotional || Wednesday 24th June 2020



## David Owens

It's a clear night. You're looking up at the stars. If it's a very clear sky you can see hundreds, possibly thousands of stars, and some of those are galaxies with hundreds of billions of stars within. Have you ever in that moment begun to ask yourself the deep questions of life? The fundamental question of theology, philosophy and science is 'why is there not nothing?' Star gazing has a habit of making us ask such questions. It's as if the stars are speaking. And it's not just the night sky. I have a friend who gave his life to Jesus sat on a mountain top. The reason? The view spoke to him of God.

Psalm 19 captures the essence of this reality so well:

**“The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge.”**

Eugene Peterson's paraphrase of this Psalm says of creation: "Unspoken truth is spoken everywhere." God has made creation to speak about his glory, his heart, his character (see Romans 1.20). That is why it can feel like creation is talking to us. It is. Or rather God speaks to us through his creation. The question is, are we listening?

There is an old spiritual discipline called communing with nature. Whenever I used to hear it mentioned I regularly dismissed it. I didn't really understand, and it sounded a bit strange to me. Did it mean I'd have to hug a tree? But lockdown, coupled with the (mostly) good weather that we've had over the last 3 months, has shown me the importance of this practice.

Communing with nature is actually communing with God. If you want to reset your perspective on life, go and star gaze. If you want to hear God's voice, go and sit on a mountain top. God will speak to you, humble you, love you. He'll make you ponder the question 'why is there not nothing?' And when we actively reach out to him we'll discover the answer to that question for ourselves, because, although he is the creator, "he is not far from any one of us" (Acts 17.27). And when you do hear him speak, respond. If you listen to this powerful song, you'll see what I mean <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fyYn21RdBBQ>.

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