

from Journals of the Heart

CARVINGS
IN HIS
PALM

WHAT GOD THINKS WHEN HE
WHISPERS YOUR NAME!

Brenda Craig

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Introduction

Intimately Pursued by a Passionate, Loving God

Carvings In His Palm, What God Thinks When He Whispers Your Name is a prophetic work birthed from the heart of God and whispered into the heart of His beloved. The work consists of a compilation of conversations and dialogs with the heavenly Father as He whispered during the intimate moments of Brenda's life and the lives of her friends, teaching them many overcoming truths. The Word and worship, along with experiences of life, were the catalyst the Father used to teach the truths within as she was inspired by her friends Eustacia Siman Martinez and Veryl Williams, while being intimately pursued by Him.

Each love letter is followed by a *What is God Thinking* journal page. The love letters are then divided into five or six Whispers (devotions) of contemplation which include a prayer of affirmation and declaration, along with questions to reflect and meditate on. A *Whisper Time* has been provided at the end of each Whisper (devotion) to record intimate whispers from the Father's heart to the reader. They can be used in response to the book or the readers own personal life.

The reader is lead on a journey which encourages them to partake of the grace, goodness and mercy of the Lord Jesus Christ. Though written in

love letter format, each letter is grounded and based on the Word of God.

Carvings In His Palm, What God Thinks When He Whispers Your Name is designed to present God's point of view in many areas of life, enabling the reader to circumvent destructive pitfalls and receive the encouragement to do it God's way. The underlying theme in this book is God's mercy, grace, and His overwhelming desire to reveal the fact that He sees us in Jesus; with love.

The book's purpose is to teach truth that frees in a loving and personal way and at the same time build an intimate relationship with the Father, removing all fear and creating self-esteem in the reader.

After many years of ministry, marriage counseling, home groups and personal one on one time with God's children, Brenda has come to know intimately the deepest need of a longing heart. *Carvings In His Palm, What God Thinks When He Whispers Your Name* meets this need, creating a sense of oneness with the Father who loves His children and wants them to know it.

These intimate dialogs come directly from the heart of the heavenly Father to the heart of His beloved, enabling a closer communion with Him. Written in this form they become very personal as if the reader is the only one on His mind.

The ultimate goal is to be encouraged to communicate with God on a personal intimate level, opening up an entire new dimension of relationship and receiving from Him.

As a result of reading and participating in reflection and contemplation, the reader will have a growing and increasingly dynamic confidence in the Lord. Come join us as He leads us on the healing journey of a lifetime by speaking His Father's heart into us, His beloved.

How To Use

Carvings in His Palm, What God Thinks When He Whispers Your Name is comprised of six love letters from the Father. Each chapter consists of one complete love letter and five or six Whispers (devotions) derived from said letter. Each Whisper (devotion) is concluded with a time of affirming prayer, reflection and a *Whisper Time* in which to give to and receive from the Father. They are not dated; therefore, have a timeless quality capable of lasting a lifetime.

Begin your intimate time with Father by reading one complete love letter from Him, letting it be absorbed into your spirit. Then take time and respond to the *What is God Thinking* journal page at the end of each letter. Pour your heart out to Him, listen and record what He speaks to you.

We then suggest you read one Whisper (devotion) derived from the complete love letter, daily or at your own pace, in order to ingest and digest, bite by bite, all the Father wants to say to you. Each daily Whisper (devotion) is accompanied by a prayer of affirmation, confession and declaration designed to be prayed and spoken over your life. At the end of each Whisper (devotion) some reflection questions are provided to encourage you to listen and hear what the Father is speaking to you in response to the word through the power and anointing of Holy Spirit. Space is provided to jot down notes to use in future times of reflection.

These questions are meant to be suggestions only. If you are stirred by the questions we provide or by other impressions or thoughts, take

the time to respond to them. Start by writing them in your own *Whisper Journal* of love, instruction and remembrance. They become a heritage to your children and a memorial of all God has done and will do (Deuteronomy 29:29). The *Whisper Time* provided at the end of each Whisper (devotion) is meant to encourage you to move beyond prayer and reflection into a place of intimate hearing—into a time of dialoging with the Father.

Remember, the goal is not to hurry through, but instead, get His Word deep into your heart. Therefore, it doesn't matter how long it takes you to get through one Whisper (devotion). Take the time to record all Holy Spirit relays to you. Intimacy and communion is what matters, not time. This is where your own personal *Whisper Journal* will be of great value.

Seize the moment—seize the day, for He is near and ready to whisper to your heart with His words of love.

May the Lord richly bless you and speak into your life. May He make His face to shine upon you. May He bless you in your coming in and your going out. May you hear the whispers of His heart. — Brenda

How To Use in a Group

Carvings in His Palm, What God Thinks When He Whispers Your Name is an excellent tool for small groups. It promotes intimacy with the Father and builds a deep relationship between the members of the group. Consider the example below.

A small group in San Antonio, Texas purchased the book and met together for a six-week period. They began their time by reading a complete love letter together and followed on with a “soaking time or resting in His presence while listening to soothing, worship music” which they downloaded at www.soakingwithapurpose.com. They would then reflect on, discuss, pray for each other needs and journal the whispers Holy Spirit spoke to their hearts. The rest of the week was spent reading the daily Whispers (devotions) related to said love letter. A time of personal soaking followed with reflection and journaling the whispers of Father’s heart until they met again. They shared the following testimonies with me.

In Their Own Words

Your Journal – Carvings in His Palm was awesome. After attending your *Soaking with a Purpose Conference* and purchasing a book, a few of us close friends continued the soaking process in order to hear more of what the Lord was speaking to us. In reading one of His letters weekly and using the

daily break down as quite time, along with downloading your great soaking music, I cannot begin to tell you about the spirit filled time of worship in the presence of the Lord we shared. Your book and music is a benefit to anyone who would want to find calm in the storms of life...Elena

Dearest Brenda...I wanted to share with you the awesome experience I shared with my friends Elena and Rosario after attending your *Soaking with a Purpose Conference*. The effect the soaking session had on our lives that day was so profound that we decided to buy the book *Carvings in His Palm*, Jaime Lipe's CD and schedule a weekly soaking session for the next six weeks. Every Monday we would meet, read the weekly love letter and then follow with a time of soaking. The Lord was so faithful to us; He always showed up and spoke to our hearts. After we soaked we would journal whatever the Holy Spirit laid on our heart. We experienced numerous breakthroughs in our lives. Thank You for sharing this wonderful part of your life with others...Irma

Hi Brenda...I too was so blessed to have shared in this time with Irma and Elena. We met once a week and read a letter from *Carvings in His Palm* and participated in a time of soaking. It was such a blessing to get together in the presence of the Lord and just listen to Him speak to our hearts. Elena would download some of the music found on your website www.soakingwithapurpose.com which was a double blessing Thank you...Rosario

Try *Carvings in His Palm, What God Thinks When He Whispers Your Name* in your small group or Bible study and take the journey of a lifetime into a place of revelation and transformation where the whispers of God's heart abound.



Long-suffering and Tender-hearted Mercy

“Clothe yourselves therefore, as God’s own chosen ones (His own picked representatives), [who are] purified and holy and well-beloved [by God Himself, by putting on behavior marked by] tenderhearted pity and mercy, kind feeling, a lowly opinion of yourselves, gentle ways, [and] patience [which is tireless and long-suffering, and has the power to endure whatever comes, with good temper]” (Colossians 3:12 Amplified)



My precious one, My heart is full of loving compassion as I watch you patiently waiting—even if it takes a year or more in your earthly time—for your prayers to be answered. Relying on the fact that My words will always come to pass, you wait expectantly and with much anticipation. Full of hope, you strongly believe I am always true to My promises.

You proclaim My promises repeatedly, without tiring. No matter what the situation looks like, you hold onto them. Your eyes are lifted up to the heavens, and your steadfast faith never wanes. Your total consciousness is deeply rooted in My Word. In the deep recesses of your soul, My Word has left an indestructible mark. Your whole being contains the stamp of My promises. You savor and relish each one in the silence of your heart. Always hoping, waiting, anticipating and believing, you are My compassionate, faithful one.

While you wait, let tenderhearted mercy always be your companion. It is in long-suffering that your gentleness and kindness of heart have the opportunity to exhibit My nature with incredible joy (Colossians 1:11). In humility and meekness, make allowances for those who are weaker and without understanding. In this, they will be provoked to trust Me with a heart of love and acceptance. Clothe yourself in Me for you are indeed My compassionate one (Colossians 3:12).

Waiting on a Whisper

Affirmation

Lord, Your words of encouragement have touched my heart beyond measure. It is my greatest desire to fulfill all You have planned for me. Your Word has created pools of refreshing life within my being where I can lay and rest when storms or opposition comes.

When I ponder Your love and patience for me, my patience grows for those around me. I am a dispenser of Your tender heart with kindness, gentleness and a good temper. Patience and long-suffering are my opportunities to walk in a way truly representing Your heart of humility. Thank you. Amen

Reflection

What have you been waiting patiently for? How has your attitude or faith level been?

Read the devotional scriptures and, cloak yourself with the words by putting your name in them. Proclaim them over yourself and you will see change.

Two

Contemplation of the Heart

“And God’s peace [shall be yours, that tranquil state of a soul assured of its salvation through Christ, and so fearing nothing from God and being content with its earthly lot of whatever sort that is, that peace] which transcends all understanding shall garrison and mount guard over your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:7 Amplified)



I have dwelt with you in your times of adoration. Your contemplations are sweet, aromatic moments to Me. They waft up through the heavens like sweet perfume and enter My senses like the smell of spring rain. They produce an abundance of fruitfulness in your life as I release them back to you in showers of blessing.

I embrace you in your silence. As you whisper “Shalom,” My peace engulfs you (Philippians 4:7). You are lost in Me, apart from the world and transformed into the realm only silence and deep contemplation can make way for. We commune with each other. Our hearts beat in unison, and our minds are entwined within the glory of My loving presence.

Such wonderful moments nourish your hungry soul and quench your thirst for My sweet grace. Your heart and mind lifted up to the heights of heaven are enthralled with encompassing joy. Yes, joy and peace transcend your human

understanding. A peace that comes from Me, and Me alone, is the garrison of your heart.

These times are important, and you must always remember them. They are like heavenly excursions where I let you taste, touch, and see the essence and beauty of Heaven. Fill yourself when you are with Me, for there will be times you are not in this place of intimate communion. There will be times when cold blasts of stormy weather assault you, making necessary a withdrawal from your heavenly account. An account where you have stored up future nourishment from the joy abiding deep within you at this time—joy bubbling up from deep within your well of salvation (Isaiah 12:3).

Come often to this place of contemplation and silence. Never fear if you feel anxious. It is when you feel anxious or condemned in any way that you should run into this place of shelter and revelation. Take a moment right now and close your eyes. Take a deep breath, breathing in My presence. I am always here.

Waiting on a Whisper

Affirmation

I have often embraced my times with You and heaven has seemed to fill my heart to the point of bursting. I often wonder when things are hectic and stormy how can I possibly forget the moments in Your tangible presence. But I do so many times.

I will choose to walk according to Your Word and not let any dullness or anxiousness of heart keep me from You. All I have to do is close my eyes and breathe You in, for the atmosphere around me is filled with Your presence, charged with power, and one-hundred percent available. You do not run from me and I will not run from You. Amen

Reflection

Reflect on some of your more intense moments with Him while your heart was given over to complete adoration. Even if they were brief, they have the capacity to change your life. Draw on them. Let them become a catalyst to move back into His presence.

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