



## IN THE RIGHT PLACE

**KEY SCRIPTURES:** Jeremiah 18:1-3, Genesis 18:1, Exodus 3:1-4, 1 Samuel 3: 1-4

Do you have a special, meeting-with-God place?

Maybe you have a special room you go into to meet with Him, like what is often called a prayer closet. Maybe you have a favorite chair that sits under a lamp and next to the side table that holds your Bible. Maybe you have an outdoor place, like under a certain tree or on a special bench. If you were mentioned in the Bible, would it say, "And the word of the Lord came to him or her, as he or she sat in the porch swing"?

I'm sure you would agree that there is nothing really magical about a closet or a chair. Because of God's omnipresence, He is no less present in your car than He is in your church. Still, several times in His Word, it is mentioned that one of God's folks is in a certain place when His word came to him. Abraham was sitting outside his tent on a hot day. Moses was outside, tending his father-in-law's sheep. Samuel was lying down in the temple.

On the other hand, we are often not told an exact location of a listener; we are just told God speaks to them. So does the location really matter?

I would suggest that the truly important position is that of our hearts.

No matter where we are, are we ready to listen? Do we get our hearts in the right position to hear what God has to say, no matter when or where He chooses to speak to us? I am sure it is safe to say that there are times, even in the most special of places, we cannot still our hearts enough beyond the day's challenges or bad news to hear what God has to say.

In Jeremiah 18, God tells the prophet to go to the potter's house. God has something important to tell him. *"This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: 'Go down to the potter's house, and there I will give you my message.' So I went down to the potter's house, and I saw him working at the wheel"* (Jeremiah 18:1-3).

(continued)

"...so we can know our value, live with purpose, and make a difference...**In that order.**"



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Jeremiah went. And he was ready to listen. Because if God said He was going to speak, He was. And, bonus, He used visual aids just in case Jeremiah was one of those folks whose learning tests said that pictures work best to get the point across.

I'm right there with you, Jeremiah.

So, was there really anything special about the potter's house besides a couple of props? Did Jeremiah have to be there to hear what God had to say?

Or was it special because Jeremiah expected to hear God's voice there, and he was ready to listen to whatever it was that God would have to show him and say to him?

Our closets and chairs aren't special because of what they are or where they are. They are special because they are where we bring a prepared heart. We get quiet enough to hear, because we expect God to speak. However, the beauty of it all is that God can speak anywhere. He is creative, and He is faithful to speak to a listening servant no matter where that servant is.

We just need to make sure our hearts are in the right place.

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