

In the process of co-writing both Wonder Works books, I have undergone a lot of reflecting about my own childhood, experiencing Papa God's voice, and the purpose behind it all. Growing up, I loved being creative, playing outdoors, writing short stories, and being with friends. It was my dream to one day be a famous news anchor for Good Morning America. I would direct my siblings in "mock" news casts, or set up school to "teach" them their ABC's. I grew up fairly confident in who I was, loved life, and my ability to lead. But somewhere along life's way, through the little things that were said to me, my own poor choices, and life experiences, the reality of my dreams and who I was began to unravel. I found myself all these years later as an adult, a mother, and a wife, broken, lost, and that little girl tucked away somewhere deep inside.

A few years ago, Naci and I read a book called "Eyes that See and Ears that Hear" by Jennifer Toldeo, and I began to experience God as a father and hear Him in new ways. Knowing Papa God's voice changed everything, and I have been trying to listen ever since. You see, not only did His voice begin to uncover and heal the deepest, most broken parts of my soul, but it also revealed the lies I had been believing all my life. The same lies that kept that little girl-full of life and wonder, locked up and hidden away. And as I began to allow Papa God to minister to my heart through His Word and voice, He began to set her free. And here I am all these years later, dreaming again... learning to play again, create again, write again, love life again, and all because I have a good good Father who loved me enough to whisper to my heart and open my ears to truly listen to Him and let Him in. I look at the "kids" (big and small) who enter the doors of our church, or the people I see at Walmart, or at the coffee shop, or on the streets, and I want so badly for them to know they have a Daddy who knows them, and longs to give them life abundantly. I am passionate about teaching His kids of all ages to know His voice so they will never get lost in the lies. To know they can run into the arms of a Father who is real and who longs to whisper His goodness and love over them everyday.

I look at my four beautiful, amazing, wonder-filled children, and I don't ever want them to be hidden. I don't ever want those wild-eyed dreamers to forget who they are and whose they are. I have seen the transformative power of His voice in my own life. It is my prayer and desire, that not only my children, but families and His children around the world, will begin to hear and know Papa God in the realest, deepest way. It was His love and voice that created the world, and we believe that it is His love and voice that will heal it.

May your life be filled with renewed wonder-All my love- Courtney Conant