

PREFACE

*This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.*

—Excerpted from the time-honored hymn “Blessed Assurance,” Fanny Crosby, 1873

OUR PURPOSE

This guide was written with one purpose in mind: to lead you, the reader, in finding and living your own God-led purpose and adventure in this life—or, in other words, your own “story,” your own “song.”

Just as songwriter Fanny Crosby first penned these words more than 150 years ago describing her walk in faith, this book will lead you on your own path of faith as you live your life according to God’s plan.

This is a companion to our previous book, *God Whispers Are Life Changers*, which is the story of God’s presence in the lives of my wife and me, over more than two decades, as we followed His *whispers* guiding us in our lives, in our business, and in our God-led service, both locally and abroad.

After publishing our first book, *God Whispers Are Life Changers*, and getting it into the hands of readers early on, we began getting feedback asking us how we did it, how others could find and live out this amazing adventure with God. To summarize this feedback, readers pretty much were saying, “Sure, this is an inspiring and encouraging story, but my life’s different from yours. How can I do this in my life? Where do I start? Where do I go?”

GOD’S WHISPER

As my wife and I received this feedback from our readers and considered it, we heard God’s *whisper* nudging us yet again. And that’s how this guide and workbook came to be.

It was written to answer the question, “How can I do this in my own life?” It was written by a layperson untrained in theology, and although biblical teachings are carefully adhered to throughout this book, it’s not a textbook, and it’s not a treatise; it’s a working guide for anyone to use.

This guide was created to be both user-friendly and entertaining. The short and easy-to-read chapters provide understandable explanations and thought-provoking exercises. Developed within a framework of biblical truths and supported by relevant and richly illustrated Bible verses and passages, the explanations and exercises provided here will guide you, the reader, in finding your own God-led purpose and path—your own adventure.

YOUR STORY

Our prayer is that this guide will lead you, dear reader, to write your own “*story*,” your own “*song*,” while “*praising your Savior all the day long*” as you travel along your own God-led adventure in life.

May God bless you in your journey!

*God Put Purpose in Our Hearts
and Adventure in Our Souls
to Guide Us on Our Path in Life!*



Relationships

Life

Service

Work

INTRODUCTION

We believe that no matter where you're at in life, you can fulfill your dreams by listening to God's whispers, working hard, and seeking and following His will. Our prayer for you, dear reader, is that you'll listen to your own God whispers and find your passion and self-fulfillment through a God-led adventure that will bring you all your heart desires—as you look to Him and seek to help others along the way.

—*God Whispers Are Life Changers*, Michael Salkeld

GOD'S PURPOSE FOR OUR LIVES

Every day, millions of individuals from all walks of life grapple with questions of purpose and direction, and Christians, whether new believers or those continuing to grow in their walk with God, are often no different. They ask themselves...

- “What now?”
- “What's next?”
- “What's God's purpose for my life?”

YOUR LIFE

If you've ever asked yourself these questions, and if you're unsure what the answers may be for you personally, this *Adventure Guide & Workbook* is for you.

No matter where you're at in life...

In School or Work:

- If you're a student, recent graduate, or young adult...
- If you're just starting your career...
- If you're unhappy or plateauing in your job or career...
- If you're highly successful in your career...

In Your Service to Others Less Fortunate:

- If you're looking toward starting a life of service to others less fortunate...
- If you're looking toward greater opportunities for service to others less fortunate...

In Your Christian Walk:

- If you're a new believer...
- If you're spiritually seasoned in your relationship with God...

Whether you're young, middle aged, entering retirement or further along in life, this *Adventure Guide & Workbook* is for you.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS GUIDE AND WORKBOOK

Written as a companion to the book *God Whispers Are Life Changers*, this guide will help you to seek out and recognize God's whispers in your own life, as well as follow His guidance in identifying and pursuing His will for your own personal path, your own life's purpose, your own personal adventure.

More than just a series of exercises, this guide is a call to action... a call to turn "faith" into action! If you will seek His guidance, follow this guide, and embark on your own adventure, your life will never be the same!

OVERVIEW OF THE BOOK *GOD WHISPERS ARE LIFE CHANGERS*

God Whispers Are Life Changers is the story of how an ordinary couple found and lived out God's purpose and adventure in their own lives.

Their entrepreneurial adventure started when they were both unemployed and uncertain of what was next, when they first recognized God's whispers nudging them to start their own business on a shoestring budget. With God directing, that business would grow over the next two decades into a thriving company that would provide the resources and freedom to allow them to pursue God's work in other areas.

As their business grew, their ministry adventure developed along the way, with His whispers leading them to both serve and support a multitude of ministries that eventually extended from their local community all the way to sub-Saharan Africa.

Their inspiring stories are chronicled in *God Whispers Are Life Changers*, which provides an encouraging example of the kind of adventure that awaits the reader and anyone who uses this guide thoughtfully and purposefully in finding and pursuing God's path and adventure for their own lives.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

The author and his wife are laypeople and are not theologically trained ministers or clergy. Their story and this guide stem from their personal experiences in listening to God's whispers, stepping out in faith, and following His will to the best of their ability as an ordinary couple living God's extraordinary adventure for their lives.

GUIDE/WORKBOOK FORMAT

This guide is written to be an interactive experience for the reader, an adventure of its own in a sense. It is packed with thought-provoking explanations and fun-filled exercises that will guide the reader on their own God-led path of purpose and adventure.

It is divided into the following four sections:

1. Building Blocks for Finding and Living Your God-Led Adventure
2. Finding and Living Your Purpose and Adventure in Work
3. Finding and Living Your Purpose and Adventure in Service

4. Conclusion—God’s Whispers Are Everywhere

Each chapter has the following five components:

1. Excerpt from *God Whispers Are Life Changers* (Michael Salkeld, Trilogy Publishing, 2025): An inspiring snippet from the book related to the subject of the chapter
2. Overview: An explanation and summary of the chapter’s subject
3. Biblical references: Verses and passages related to the chapter’s subject (all references are taken from the English Standard Version of the Bible, with Bible verses and passages numbered sequentially using the format B1, B2, B3, etc., as a convenience for the reader to reference in journal entries)
4. Action items: Exercises to help the reader apply the chapter’s subject in their own lives (numbered sequentially using the format A1, A2, A3, etc., as a convenience for the reader to reference in journal entries). Action Items include the following:
 - Think Back: Fun and thought-provoking exercises designed to encourage you to recall memories, prior events, occurrences, and other aspects of your life, and to help you explore how these may fit into, or be contrary to, your God-led life of purpose and adventure in going forward
 - Ask Yourself: Reflective and stimulating questions to explore as you consider your life thus far, and your God-led life of adventure as you move forward
 - Going Forward: Exercises that will help you in moving forward with God’s plan for purpose and adventure in your work; in your service; and in other areas of your life
5. Journal pages: Blank page for reflecting and recording thoughts, ideas, occurrences, and other topics as you move forward with your God-led life of purpose and adventure

READ ALL OR PART?

The chapters of Section 1 are essential for establishing the underlying fundamentals of all the subsequent chapters. The remaining sections (2 through 4), however, while presented in an orderly progression, are also, in a sense, independent. Therefore, you may skip over some of the content and still benefit from the full experience of the chapters you read.

BEGINNING WITH PRAYER

Before reading further and beginning your own adventure, it is important to take a few minutes to quietly pray. Ask God to fill you with wisdom and discernment as you begin this journey. Ask Him to lead your way in helping you to discern His whispers to guide you, to direct you, and to encourage you. And thank Him for offering you this tremendous opportunity to shape your life as He would have you do.

SECTION I

Building Blocks
for Finding and Living
Your God-Led Adventure



*And your ears shall hear a
word behind you, saying,
“This is the way, walk it,”
when you turn to the right*

CHAPTER 1

God Whispers

Anyone who's ever lost a job, either through cutbacks, layoffs, or for any other reason, understands the emotions and insecurities that grab you. Thoughts go through your mind like, What am I going to do? How will we support our family? How will this affect our teenage boys, and how will we ever be able to send them to college? Will I ever be able to get another job? and on and on and on. We had nowhere to turn. We had no fallback plan.

So we looked to the Lord for guidance, and we heard His whispers, and shortly thereafter, we had our direction and the start of a plan.

—*God Whispers Are Life Changers*, Michael Salkeld

OVERVIEW

Experiencing God's Whispers through Prayer

In order to listen for and hear or experience God's whispers, prayer is essential.

1. It all begins with prayer.
2. It all develops with prayer.
3. It all culminates with prayer.

Prayer is our direct connection with God. It is through prayer that God's whispers quietly...

1. Nudge us
2. Encourage us
3. Strengthen us
4. Remind us
5. Redirect us
6. Affirm us

This is not to imply that we will always experience God's whispers while in prayer, but rather that prayer will open doors for receiving His whispers at other times and through other experiences, as noted in the table to follow.

God's Whispers Are the Holy Spirit Speaking

Yes, God still speaks to us today... perhaps not in a thundering voice from the heavens nor sounding forth from a burning bush on a mountainside, but in a soft whisper in our hearts and in our heads. No, His voice may not be as loud as it was in the days of old, but it is certainly as clear and certainly as meaningful.

God's whispers are the Holy Spirit manifesting Himself to you. The Holy Spirit is real, He is alive today, and He dwells in every believer.

We must listen closely to ascertain His whispers, as they are soft by their very nature. Whispers are not necessarily audible, and they may come in many forms, as shown in the following table. To hear or experience His whispers, we need to pray, we need to listen, and we need to act.

Many have experienced God's whispers, only to brush them off as "just a feeling." This is not done as a purposeful denial, but rather as just a feeling of "oh, I can't do that" or "no, that'll never happen," or "no, not me," or a hundred other thoughts that silence the whisper as we go about our hectic lives.

As we learn to listen for His whispers, we will be able to distinguish between whispers from God and random or worldly thoughts or feelings.

God's Whispers—Coming to Us in Many Forms, Circumstances, and Settings

God's whispers come to us in many different circumstances and settings. And they come to us in many different forms. The following are just a few.

GOD WHISPER TABLE	
Circumstances and Settings <i>God's Whispers may come to you while you are...</i>	Forms <i>God's Whispers may come to you through...</i>
Praying	An intuitive thought or feeling
Reading the Bible	An "aha" moment
Dreaming	A "light bulb" in your head
Taking a walk	A flutter of excitement in your heart
Sitting on a porch	A desire
Interacting with social media or the internet	A motivating idea
Listening to a sermon	An opportunity that comes seemingly out of nowhere
Having a discussion with a spouse, friend, or any other person	An answer to a prayer
Reading the news	A solution to a problem