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Hi there. Betty here with Beyond the Dollop. And today, today, I don't know what the heck. heck is going on? No, I'm sorry. I'm trying to keep a sense of humor here. You know, one of the things that I find, the hardest to get used to is when things are going along and then all of a sudden, there's nothing. Okay. So my sister and I have this inside family joke, okay? When my nieces were young, the youngest one, our beautiful Karen, was like, I don't know, she was maybe, maybe two and a half, three, three years old, okay? And she was staying with us for a little while. She comes out of the bathroom and she comes up to me and she's auntie Betty, the faucet went.. And we're like, okay, um what are you trying to say? She said, well, the faucet went and nothing. And I said, okay, show me. So we walked back to the bathroom and and I'm going, okay, show me. Because she went to, obviously, you know, she was trained properly, went to the bathroom and was going to wash her hands, except when she went to turn the faucet on, nothing came out. And she goes, it went.. And so ever since then, when there's nothing happening, my sister and I will say, well the faucet went, okay. And I know. It's stupid, it's silly. It's childish, actually. But for us, it's, or I should say this this, for me, it's one of those little things that helps me to maintain a sense of humor about life and the nothingness of what's happening. And, you know, you know, I look around and and it's not that life isn't happening. But when you're in the midst of, let's say, waiting on God, or, you know, there's been this, I'll call it prophetic flow, some kind of of increase or it feels like

something's about to happen. And then the faucet went, Okay. And that's kind of where I feel like I'm at. So I'm on the phone with my sister yesterday. And we're talking about, well, what's going on with you? You know, I mean, we talk, honestly, my sister and I talk probably, probably every day, if not at least every other day. And we talk about nothing, okay? We talk about nothing and we talk about everything. There's times when we'll just be on the phone doing life together because we're not close enough in proximity to be able to just simply go run errands together and things like that, which we used to do. Okay? So sometimes, you know, when you're she's younger than I am, and yet we're both we're both alone. We both live alone. Well, I don't live. I live with my son and daughter-in-law, but we we don't have life partners. And so a lot of times when we're out doing the mundane things of life, there's no one to do do those mundane things with. So we'll call. What are you doing? Well, I'm I'm on my way to the chiropractor or I'm going to Costco, you know, whatever that looks like, okay. And it's okay, well, you know what, H, and we'll just chat and talk about nothing. And sometimes there's no conversation. We're just, she's doing her thing, I'm doing mine. But there's nothing really being said. And sometimes time will go by and go, well, you know what? I can let you go, you know, you go go do what you're doing. No, no, no, that's okay. Stay with me, okay? And we kind of got into this about when my sister was out, she boards dogs and she does a lot of dog walks. Well, she used to do these walks late in the evening, and especially during the winter. And she lives in the city, in the city of Chicago. And she'd call me, you know, and she'd go, just stay on the line with me while I do this walk.

You know, it's icy. I've got a dog, you know, and and there's sometimes there's a lot going on, you know, and you just want somebody, the security of knowing there's somebody else on the other end of the line. Whether there's conversation going on or not, that's been coming to my mind because I know God's on the other end of line, okay? I know he's there, but he's not really saying anything right now. I mean, he is, but he's not. It's like, I know he's there. I know he's, it's like, Betty, just stay on the line. And that's all I'm hearing right now. You know, it's it's just stay on the line. I'm here. I'm here. But we're comfortable enough in our relationship where where he can be doing what he's doing. I'm doing what I'm doing. I know we're connected. I know I'm secure enough in that to know that we have this this connection. He didn't he hasn't hung up on me. I haven't hung up on him. And yet there's nothing really being said right. And I will admit, though, that there are times when when I have to check, you know, like sometimes you don't know whether or not you've got gotten disconnected from the call because the call, hey, did you put me on mute? You know, sometimes I said, you know, I mean, it happens. You know, I'm sorry, I had you on mute. I didn't realize that because there be time she goes, are you still there? And I'm going, yeah, I'm still there. And I've looked down to my phone. And sure enough, I had accidentally hit the mute button. And so I've been asking, God, hey, do you have me on mute right now? Because I feel like I've been on mute. No, no, no, I'm here. I'm here. And I just wanted to. I know it's silly. Like I said, I know it's silly. But I'm like, I have to convey this because. the sense I'm getting is that there's a lot of people who are out there right now who, you know, you've

been praying, you've been pressing in. You're doing all the things you know to do. Okay? You're jumping through hoops, basically. And really, all you need to know is you're still connected. He says's still on the line. And when there's something to be said, he'll say it. You know, he's doing things that we can't see from here. You know, even with strong, prophetic gifting and, you know, vis visual visions and things like that, and encounters and all. There's times in seasons. There's times when we go through times of heightened spiritual activities when there's angels showing up and there's all sorts of, let's say, not only angelic activity, but but a ton of spiritual activity. And then there's times when things are quiet. And I believe that there are a whole bunch of us right now who are in, I don't want to say a pause because it's not really so much of a pause, but where it just simply feels like you've been put on mute. You're not hearing what's going on on the other end of the line, and you're not FaceTiming with God right now, you know? And the enemy would like you to feel like, like you've done something wrong. And I just want to assure you that you haven't. You know, be at peace with in your relationship with God, because he's not striving over whether he still loves you or not. It's just a fact. He is not striving over whether he's forgiven you of your past or not. He has. He is not striving over whether or not you're doing all the things you can do. He's not striving over that. He is totally and completely at peace with who he is, but he's also totally and completely at peace with who you are. And when he's when there's an expectation, when there's an instruction that's coming from God, he'll make that clear. He doesn't play games. Okay, when there's something that God is requiring of us,

you know, just asking for a simple act of obedience, You know, sometimes we think it has to be difficult, because that's the way we're wired. You know, we're wired to make things difficult. We' we're just wired that way. You know, we complicate things. We're human beings. It's what we do. You know, if something is easy, we'll figure out a way to make it more complicated. But it doesn't have to be that way. And honestly, I think it's taken me my entire adult life to figure that out, that he really loves it when we're just like children and come to him like children do. You know, children are typically, they're on uncomplicated. Everything is easy. You know, playing is easy when you're a kid. Running is easy, you know, laughing and giggling and having fun is easy when we're children. And unfortunately, as we get older, we complicate that. We tend to. You know, sometimes it's just, you know, it's some kind of religious junk that got in that says, no, this is, it's not that easy. It can't be that easy. Well, yes, it can, because the way of the Spirit is easy. And the way of life in the Spirit is easy, because Jesus came to make it easy. He didn't come to make it complicated. He came to make it easy. You know, I had the privilege of hearing messages from a variety of different people over the years. And I used to love listening to the old folks. When I was a young person, I loved listening to the old saints, you know, just hearing their stories and and just being amazed at how God met with them over the years and the circumstances they had gone through and how how God came through for them, you know, and I thought, well, Betty, you're you're that old farm. now. You know, you're that old woman now. You're the old woman with the stories. And, you know, I am, and I have, you know, I do. I have a

multitude of stories because I've lived life, you know. You know, have I made mistakes? Was life perfect? No, it never is because life doesn't come that way. Life doesn't come in this neat little package where there's never any adversity or there's never any trials and difficulties where. Life comes with ups and downs. You know, even Jesus said, you know, in this world, you're going to have affliction. But be of good courage because I've overcome the world. This is the vict victory that's overcome the world, even your faith. You know, it's how do we walk by this spirit? We walk by faith. We walk by faith in the one who loves us, the one who knows us. The one who loves us so much that that he gave his life for us. Why? So that we could have life. So we could could have life, and that more abundantly. And it's like, sometimes I think we get so caught up in, well, I have to read my Bible. I have to read so many chapters, I have to read so many verses, or I have I have to cram this stuff in my head, you know, especially when we're when we're new believers. You know, there's this hunger that that, you know, I don't know that I've met anyone yet, you know, who had a genuine conversion experience where God just met with them and they and they had a powerful impactacting encounter with God, where they knew their life was completely transformed. And immediately after having accepted Christ as their Savior, immediately, they just started getting this hunger for reading the word of God and getting into their Bibles. And and then something starts to happen happen along the way, you know, that hunger begins to wane. And then we start to feel guilty, that the hungerger has waned. And it's like, well, here's the thing. When you're full, you're full. When you're full,, you're full. And one way, but you know

what? But life has a way of emptying us out, you know? You know, I mean, I've love the word. I absolutely love the word. I love getting into the Word of God. I love doing deep, deep dives into the scriptures. It's just, that's who I am. That's how I'm wired. That's not everybody's thing. you know, and it doesn't have to be. You go do you go be you. You go be you, you know, and and find find out by just simply living your life. I just want to say lovingly, relax. Just relax. We don't have to be so intense every moment of every day, because that's striving. That's not the peace of God. That's striving. And we don't need to strive. I don't need to strive over whether I'm reading my Bible every day or not. If you feel that that's something you want to you want to get into and you want to and I'm certainly not going to speak against it, but I am going to say it's like everything else. It's do it in balance. Don't go so overboard with the half-tos, that you lose out on just simply being, you know, be who you are, not who someone else expects you to be. Do what you do. You know, do you. God'll go do him. He's got it. He is not worried about his self esteem, or his self worth. He doesn't have to prove himself. He doesn't have to go out of his way to make his presenceence known. He just he walks in the room. I got news for you. You know he's there. You know, he makes it easy. God, are you here? Are you here? Are you here? Yeah, he's there. But sometimes we need, sometimes we need the reassurance that he's there. And when we need that reassurance, it's like reaching your handout. When you're walking side by side with with your partner, your spouse, and you and you reach your hand out. what do they typically do? They reach back. You reach your hand out. Why? Because

there's just the reassurance. Hey, you're here. We're holding hands. He's holding your hand. He's holding your hand. He hasn't left you. He hasn't abandoned you. Things may be quiet right now, but that's okay. That's okay. They can be, because you're going to find that that as life goes on, we need the rhythm of work and rest, and work and rest. That's what Shabbat. That's what the Sabbath is all about. It's about finding that rhythm. You know, that that's why the Lord said, you know, Keep the Sabbath. Keep it as a holy day. Keep it as a day set apart. Now, does that mean you have to go to church on Sunday? No, no. He didn't say, I want you to spend your Sabbath, striving over religious things.. That's not what got sad. Now, if going to church is your thing that you enjoy, then by all means, go to church. If that's where you, you're getting your spirit filled up and rest for your soul, then by all means go do that. But Jesus said, the Sabbath was made for man, not man for this sabbath. The sabbath was created so that we would understand our need for rest. So we're not working seven days a week. So we're not overdoing it. You know, it's it's work, we', hard. You know, put your effort in, do the work, but remember to rest in the midst of it. Remember to enjoy the life that God's given you. If we're always in, and I'll even say this, if we're always in ministry mode, if we're always in that mode, we're, oh, my God, I have to you know, I'm always scanning the horizon for for what where can I give a word? Where can I just where can I minister to somebody else? Oh, calm down. Seriously. And I'm sorry if you're offended by that, but calm down, because here's the thing. When we're walking by the spirit, I don't have to be hypervigilant. I don't have to be always scanning the

horizon. I don't have to be in that hyper mode. Just relax. Relax, and enjoy your life. And I think if there's anything that I can convey, to believers, it's just enjoy the life God has given you. And if you're in a situation where that's not possible for you, then I want to pray for you. You know, and I will, okay? I know there's a lot of people who are just, you're not getting any arrest. You just, life is insurmountable. And I understand that. You know, I'm not talking about, you know, when I talk about a Sabbath, I I'm not talking about a religious way of engaging with that. If you have to work a job to make ends meet, then. you got to do what you got to do, okay? But I am a firm believer that God will give us rest in other ways, because it's not about one particular day. It's about the fact that God has given us this rhythm. He's given us His peace, his rest. So there is a rest that we can enter into that comes from God. So, Father God, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we come before you. Lord, I want to lift up to you all of those who are not in situations where they can find rest. Lord, I'm asking you to lead them and guide them into your rest, that you would give them wisdom, that you would impart your peace, that you would convey to them everything that they have need of. If they're in a situation where they have to work seven days a week in order to pay their bills, then, Lord, I'm asking for supernatural means to come in so that they have the ability to take care of their financial needs, their physical needs, and all of all of what they have to need in this life, but to also have times of refreshment and life and enjoyment, let the peace of God reign, let the joy of the Lord overflow. Let them know the abundance of your love and and come, Lord God with times of refreshment in Jesus' name. Amen. Well, maybe

for obvious reasons, I am keeping this relatively short today, so I just want to thank you for hanging out with me today. Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine apart. you, and be gracious to you. The Lord, lift up his countants upon you and give you peace. This has been Betty withadal.