

SOUNDS IN THE SILENCE

One of my prized possessions is a gold pocket watch given to me by Lola's father. It is a Waltham, and – the product of a watchmaker with pride and reputation at stake – still keeps good time.



My father-in-law purchased it in Philadelphia, where he worked as a young man before returning to Tennessee to marry and start his family. I knew what that timepiece meant to him; it was seldom out of his pocket for more than a half-century of ownership. When he gave it to me, knowing that I would treasure it, too, I was overwhelmed at the gift.

The watch reminds me of a story I read recently. Many years ago, a little boy was presented a priceless possession: his deceased grandfather's gold pocket watch. How he cherished it!

But one day, while playing at his father's ice plant, he lost the watch amid all the ice and sawdust.

He searched and scratched, becoming frantic, but no watch. Then he suddenly realized what to do. He stopped scurrying around and became very still. In the silence, he heard the watch ticking.

God has given a priceless gift of joy in Jesus to those who choose to receive it. How easy it is to lose our joy in the scurrying around, the hustle and bustle, of life.

Yet the joy is always there to find if we will but pause and listen to the indwelling Spirit in our hearts.

Make time for those moments of quiet reflection and meditation, and you can hear Him speak amidst the silence.

– Beecher Hunter