

(Topics and Lead-in Below)

When Jesus Speaks

TUNE: I Am a Poor Wayfaring Stranger

Dm Dm Dsus Dm Dm Gm/Bb

1. When Je - sus speaks, He speaks to per - sons, Each heart to heart and
2. When Je - sus speaks, His word is pow - er, The Sword of Truth, a

Gm7/Bb Gm/Bb A7sus A7 Dm Dm Dsus Dm Dm

face to face - light. A word of peace, a word of chal - lenge,
blaz - ing light. His word is bread and liv - ing wa - ter.

Dm Gm Gm7 Dm/A Am7 Dm F/C Bb F/Bb C9 C

A word of sin, a word of grace. When Je - sus speaks, His word is
His word is fire. His word is life. When Je - sus speaks, His love is

F Bb F/Bb Gm9/Bb Gm/Bb A7sus A7 Dm

wis - dom. O hear it sound - ing in your soul! Your Lord is
call - ing. O give your heart to noth - ing else! For when He

WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: Traditional American Melody;
arr. by Ken Bible

WAYFARING STRANGER
9.8.9.8.D.

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LEAD-IN DEVOTIONAL READING:

The Way He Speaks

One of the things that intrigues me about Jesus is the way He talked to people, especially individuals, one on one. He talked with lawyers and criminals, religious leaders and prostitutes, fishermen, tax collectors, soldiers, and children. He spoke with women, even when it was against the social conventions of His day.

He always spoke to these people with personal respect--respect for the independence and dignity of the individual.

He never pushed or steam-rolled anybody. He spoke with understanding, consideration, and patience. He took time. He provided reason. And He always spoke face-to-face, not looking over their shoulders or talking over their heads. He didn't "hammer" or "preach at" individuals. He was never harsh or condemning...at least not with the humble.

He was not repulsed by the unrespectable people of His day. He was attracted to them, genuinely drawn to them...not to a class of people, but to individual persons. He had an almost organic attraction to them.

He loved them just where they were, as they were, but He cared too much to abandon them there. He drew them on, drew them in, toward the simple truth and toward a life-giving trust in himself.

That's what He did for me. I remember when I first trusted Him--not just mentally believed in Him, but genuinely, personally trusted Him from my heart. I was not drawn in so much by what He was saying to me. What gripped me was His reality--the reality of His person. I knew He was there in front of me. I felt He was looking right into my eyes, into my heart. And though He was holy God and I was a very unholy sinner, the look was love--nothing but love.

That's what got me. I trusted Him. I bowed to Him and confessed my sin, and life has not been the same since.

I'm not talking about religion. I'm not talking about church, or beliefs, or cultural preference, or emotional experiences. I'm talking about Jesus Christ. I'm talking about knowing Him on a personal basis and trusting Him as God.

Don't take my word for it. You can know Him yourself. If you want to know Him, or know Him better, He will reveal Himself to You. He will come to You personally, one-on-one.

When He comes, when He speaks to you, listen. Whatever He says, His voice is always only love.