



God on Mute: Engaging the Silence of Unanswered Prayer

Pete Greig

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Pete Greig, the acclaimed author of *Red Moon Rising*, has written his most intensely personal and honest account yet in *God on Mute*, a book born out of his wife Samie's fight for her life and diagnosis of a debilitating brain tumor. Greig asks the timeless questions of what it means to suffer and to pray and to suffer through the silence because your prayers seem unanswered. This silence, Greig relates, is the hardest thing. The world collapses. Then all goes quiet. Words can't explain, don't fit, won't work. People avoid you and don't know what to say. So you turn to Him and you pray. You need Him more than ever before. But somehow...even God Himself seems on mute.

In this heart-searching, honest and deeply profound book, Pete Greig looks at the hard side of prayer, how to respond when there seem to be no answers and how to cope with those who seek to interpret our experience for us. Here is a story of faith, hope and love beyond all understanding.

God on Mute: Engaging the Silence of Unanswered Prayer Details

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Vinnie Batiste says

Answers for me

I have learned much from this book. I'm also going through a similar situation with my health. Sometimes it just helps to know that you're not alone. Thanks for this book.

Roberta says

I really enjoyed the vulnerability of the author and his candid way of describing just how hard unanswered prayer can be. In my own life I have been dealing with unanswered prayer for over 3 years. You do wonder where is God and how can He leave me this way for so long?

I loved how he used Jesus journey from Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and eventually Easter Sunday to contrast our own suffering and loneliness that can accompany unanswered prayer. The part of the book that really spoke to me was Holy Saturday. Here is a brief quote where I think Greig makes an excellent point. "Holy Saturday seems to me to describe the place in which many of us live our lives: waiting for God to speak. We know that Jesus died for us yesterday. We trust that there may be miracles tomorrow. But what of today - this eternal Sabbath where heaven is silent? Where, we wonder, is God now?"

The most practical bit of advice I can take away from this book is that in light of unanswered prayer my response should be to immerse myself even more in the Word of God. "The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of God stands forever" ~ Isaiah 40:8.

Stephen says

If you're going through a tough time in life (as we all do at some point so don't take the good times for granted), this book is just such a comfort.

Sam says

good book

Barrett says

A dear friend at work recommended this book. I absolutely loved the first half, and couldn't put the book down. The second half kept me engaged, but left me less inspired. Overall, absolutely worth the time. This book gave me plenty to think and ponder about. Put it on your list!

Frank Peters says

The book is all about dealing with unanswered Prayer. Pete Greig, as one of the founders of the 24-7 prayer movement has seen and experienced God answering many prayers in exciting ways. Yet at the same time, the prayer that he would most like to have answered has not. There are obvious parallels with the Apostle and his thorn-in-the-flesh. The book is especially good in that Greig does not provide those suffocating answers that are all too common. Rather he deals with unanswered prayer from a number of angles. He deals with it in a pastoral manner, since normally people with unanswered prayers are frustrated, despondent, depressed etc. Greig also deals with the issue in a systematic, objective manner, by outlining a number of clear scriptural reasons why God may not answer prayer. These range from the trivial or simplistic, to the profound. The book also outlines the mistakes others make when dealing with this issue: from abandoning their faith, to assuming that God does not care, or perhaps is not capable of helping. Greig deals with each of these errors carefully and well. All told, the book is really very good, and I would recommend to anyone who was interested in, or struggling with the issue of unanswered prayer.

Michelle says

This book touched me profoundly. With elegant simplicity and yet appropriate complexity, Pete explores the mystery that is unanswered prayer. Without providing any single answer, Pete begins to touch on the many possible permutations of unanswered prayer, while ultimately leaving its mystery with a loving God who Himself suffered on our behalf. I'm grateful for the thoughtful tone and the compassionate wisdom shared in this book.

Jim says

Peter Grieg is the founder of the 24/7 prayer movement and wrote God On Mute after his wife Sammie had been diagnosed with a brain tumour.

In his strikingly honest, personal look at Prayer Pete takes a hard look at why God might not answer, or does not seem to answer prayer. God On Mute is written from his own personal experiences with his wife Sammi, who although underwent successful treatment for her brain tumour, still suffers terrible epilepsy after the treatment.

I used to think that God always answered prayer, but that we did not always see it or it was not answered as we would wish. This was what I put down my seemingly unanswered prayers to. Now I see that there might be occasions when prayer is unanswered.

Some reasons prayer might go unanswered become quite obvious when Pete points them out. For example, when two people's prayers are in conflict with one-another. It can happen with the best of intent by both people. Pete also points out that some prayers are about trivial things, or that some we are capable of

answering ourselves, we just need a nudge in the right direction to get off our backsides and do it. And of course some prayers might even be a bit selfish in nature.

It is remarkable that Pete never seems to have lost faith and hope, though so much of his and Sammi's own prayer seems to have gone unanswered. He tells us in his own candid manner how he handled his difficulty when prayer was unanswered.

John Fudge says

I have met Pete a few times and been impressed by his depth of insight, and read The Vision and the Vow, laughed at the naked lift episode and wondered if he had anything to say on unanswered prayer - a mystery to many air head charismatic evangelicals like myself.

I have found him riveting on this subject.

In particular the summaries at the end of each chapter will make it possible to quickly re-read the elements of the book that have been most helpful.

If you or a friend are confused about unanswered prayer and despondent about even asking any more, it may be time to revisit what you are doing and why. This book may be a most helpful guide to rethinking prayer, especially in the presence of pain.

Brandon Howlett says

This should be basic reading for every Christian.

Rachel Quinlan says

A timely word in a season of questions. Engaging and thought provoking. One definitely to refer back to again and again.

Daniel H. Weber says

Helpful rheough ny own struggles...

As anyone, who has an active faith in Christ., There are many times when heaven seems silent, answers to prayer delayed, and answers that seem contrary to the requested end. This book was very comforting. It is good to know I'm not the only one asking hard questions of God. A real encouragement to keep pressing forward; in prayer, in hope, in love.

caroline filler says

Powerful book about prayer and that is Pete Grieg main theme. I liked it, a lot but my favourite of his remains Red Moon Rising.

Vicky Saunders says

Great book, really helps you to understand and feel clearer on your own understanding of why sometimes prayers go unanswered for some time. Also on the popular misjudgement of those who assume that without an immediate answer there is something wrong with you.

Chastidy Parks says

Loved this book although it took me a year to read it! It's an easy read but also thought provoking. So I picked it up but then put it down for long seasons.
