

# The Bridegroom's Voice



**Kimberly McCarthy**



*The Bridegroom's Voice*

Copyright © 2015 Kimberly McCarthy

ISBN: 978-1-942508-16-8

All rights reserved. No portion of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means—electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording, or any other—without prior written consent from the publisher.

Published by Touch Publishing

P.O. Box 180303

Arlington, Texas 76096 U.S.A.

[www.TouchPublishingServices.com](http://www.TouchPublishingServices.com)

Library of Congress Control Number: 2015951545

To contact the author visit her website: [www.TheBridegroomsCafe.com](http://www.TheBridegroomsCafe.com)

Follow KimberlyMac on Twitter: @KMac4Him

# Acknowledgements

## **Thank You, Jesus**

I am thankful to be God's work in progress. I thank God that He did not give up on me and He has finally finished what He started in me many years ago, when I began writing this book. I dedicate the completion of this book to Jesus Christ and honor Him with the revelation of His Glory through it. AWE-GOD!

Thank You, Jesus, for Your sovereign will always accompanied by Your infinite love.

## **Thank You, Bob**

It is exciting to be continually growing and I attribute all of this growth to my relationship with God. I also thank my husband Bob who, 36 years ago, led me to the personal knowledge of Jesus Christ. My husband is my greatest encourager in this life here on earth and it was through his faithful inspiration I had the desire to stay focused and the courage to finish this book. I know God loves me with a very intimate and personal love and has been with me through my all and in all. So has Bob. Bob, I dedicate this book to you, as it is a result of your tenacity in Christ!

Thank You, Jesus, for Robert Paul McCarthy.

## **Thank You, Vince and Agnes Cocuzza**

Now in heavenly hindsight, I am thankful my progress with this book was slow, yet deliberate, by the guidance of the Holy Spirit. God's precious timing caused me to grow up as I moved forward with Him, especially when I learned to stop, wait, and listen, all the while being trained in patience, trust, and endurance before I was to move on again. Along the pathway of the experience of writing this book, I learned of God's faithfulness and provision through my parents, Vince and Agnes Cocuzza, who modeled God's incredible love to me from the time I was born. It was their excellent dedication to living life with courage, compassion, and conviction that inspired me to write this book, so I dedicate this to the spirit of their union that brought forth in me a deep desire to live on this earth with an admirable reputation, earned by making good, moral choices that were acted out in service unto our Almighty Living God.

Their selflessness abounded in many lives as they cared for their family and served others always before themselves.

To you, Mom, now spending your time in eternity, and to you, Dad, also walking streets of gold in heaven, I convey my deepest thanks to God. The yearning of a deeper walk with Him was birthed and nourished in me by your exceptional love of God and your servant hearts. Mom and Dad, through your dedicated prayer life, I, too, learned to listen to The Bridegroom's Voice.

Thank You, Jesus, for my parents.

# Table of Contents

Preface	1	Week 23 - The Race	87
Introduction	3	Week 24 - Success	91
Week 1 - Love	5	Week 25 - SELAH	95
Week 2 - Questions	8	Week 26 - Bruised	98
Week 3 - Peace	12	Week 27 - Shame	102
Week 4 - Hope	16	Week 28 - Narrow Road	106
Week 5 - SELAH	20	Week 29 - Destined	110
Week 6 - Forever Yours	23	Week 30 - SELAH	114
Week 7 - Knowing You	27	Week 31 - Courageous Love	117
Week 8 - Holy Ground	31	Week 32 - Stuff	121
Week 9 - Being Yoked	35	Week 33 - True Justice	125
Week 10 - SELAH	39	Week 34 - Choose Truth	129
Week 11 - Dead Traditions	42	Week 35 - SELAH	133
Week 12 - Sin	46	Week 36 - Just Be	136
Week 13 - Brewing Storms	49	Week 37 - Ministry	140
Week 14 - A Beautiful Spirit	53	Week 38 - Remain	144
Week 15 - SELAH	57	Week 39 - Victorious	148
Week 16 - I AM Love	60	Week 40 - SELAH	152
Week 17 - Everlasting Seed	64	Week 41 - Responsive Clay	155
Week 18 - Why	68	Week 42 - Relationships	159
Week 19 - Rejoice	72	Week 43 - Believe	163
Week 20 - SELAH	76	Week 44 - Infinite Mercy	167
Week 21 - Grieving	79	Week 45 - SELAH	171
Week 22 - Trust	83	About the Author	175



# Preface



*“He who has the bride is the Bridegroom; but the groomsman who stands by and listens to Him rejoices greatly and heartily on account of the Bridegroom’s Voice. This then is my pleasure and joy, and it is now complete. He must increase, but I must decrease.”*

*John 3:29-30 Amplified Bible*



You and I, dear Christian, are to be imitators of Christ and live a life of love. In order to accomplish this heavenly task, we need to daily hear The Bridegroom’s Voice and grow in relationship with Him! *The Bridegroom’s Voice* is a special book designed for the groomsman (you) who stands by listening to the Bridegroom (Jesus) as He speaks to His bride (the Church).

I welcome you to a nine-month journey that begins by infusing you with a vision of Jesus Christ; one I hope will cultivate in you as you grow through this weekly devotional! This book will inspire you, groomsman, to take time to listen to the Bridegroom’s voice as He speaks to His bride—His church. You will read His Holy Word, reflect on it, and then apply the revelation of the Bridegroom’s truth to your inner man, that you might decrease and the Bridegroom might increase in you.

Today you embark on a 45-week personal voyage to learn how to hear and obey the Bridegroom’s voice, allowing Him to birth and develop in you a beautiful relationship with Him. During your weekly expeditions, you will read the Bridegroom’s Journal as He writes to His bride and you must ask, “What is the Bridegroom saying to us?” and “What is the Holy Spirit speaking to my heart, today?”

And together, you will set aside a moment in time, working out your salvation and listening to the Bridegroom, hearing His heart, and talking to Him so He can listen to you and hear your desires. I exhort you to take time every day during the week to read each scripture, meditate on it, and flesh it out, letting the Holy Spirit speak to your heart of hearts! And, groomsman, as you listen to the Bridegroom’s voice and as He speaks to your inner spirit, I encourage you to keep *The Weekly Groomsman’s Journal*, writing your spirit-thoughts—God’s revelations to you.

Finally, take a *Selah* (pause and think) week every 5th week to reflect on the

Bridegroom's revelations to you, which you wrote down in your Groomsman's Journal during the four weeks prior; specifically share with God your heart's longing for His Image to increase in you, according to what He has spoken.

Groomsman, enjoy these nine months of growth progression. At the end, I pray you will be released to share a deeper walk with the Bridegroom as He births in you something new and beautiful!

In Christ,

KimberlyMac

# Introduction

This book was written over a period of years, it has been a work in progress and is intended to be progressive; a journey of faith for you. The words in this book are a gift of God's personal intimacy. Because we are all different and do things at a pace according to our own God-design, this book can be journeyed through at the speed set by the Holy Spirit for you. It is designed to be a nine-month journey, but the way that it is written gives you a personal, Holy Spirit-led journey where time is not the assignment—growth in your relationship with God is the mission.

God desires to be personal with you and increase His influence in and through you to a world He loves very much. He will do this by His Holy Spirit. This devotional book will take you on a crossing, a passage, that will advance your faith in the Kingdom of God. You will experience a decrease of your will daily and an increase of the intimacy of God's Spirit within your inner person. The crossing of paths with God and your spirit will take time, dedication, and commitment on your part. I pray, as you begin this weekly adventure with God, that you will sit before Him with a burning desire in your heart to know Him more and with a tenacious determination for your will to decrease as you seek His presence. I pray you will ask His Holy Spirit to increase in your life. Each week of this book gives you an opportunity to communicate with the Father God through His word and prayer and, by His Holy Spirit, you will be able to express your inner thoughts and desires to Him as you write in your Groomsman's Journal. The Groomsman's Journal is the place for you to get heart-to-heart and spirit-to-spirit with the Bridegroom and His Word. Take what He has spoken to you throughout the week and record it. Work through the questions He asks in the "Bridegroom Speaks" section.

Selah! Pause and quietly think about it. At the end of every 4th week, take time to stop and wait on God, listening to His voice and re-reading through your Groomsman's Journal. I know, by experience, at the end of your week of Selah, after you share your thankfulness and the inner thoughts that come out of your reflection of the previous four weeks, you will be able to determine by the attitude of your heart and the stature of your will how much your flesh has decreased and His Holy Spirit has increased in you.

My prayer is also that you mark a turning point on your pathway of life; focusing your heart, mind, will, soul, and spirit towards Almighty Father God! My

precious one, I pray you will seek the voice of the Bridegroom as your one voice; the influence of His Spirit as your only authority and yearn for the presence and character of God to increase in you.

God bless your progress and passage through the crossroad where the Bridegroom's life intersects with yours today. Awe-GOD! Enjoy the journey!

# Week 1 – Love



*The Bride asks: “Jesus, speak to me about love. . .”*



## The Bridegroom Speaks:

My Bride,

Today I will speak to you about a love that is dynamic and everlasting. My love for you is kind, compassionate, patient, slow to anger, enduring, and will never fail you. This devotion has been and always will be an overcoming force of courage with a never-ending flow of peace to all those who depend upon it. That is why I braided it with cords of strength, potential, and hope! My infinite love, intermingled with your faith in Me, creates a beautiful and legitimate unity. My bride, to you I have made a special commitment of love and I declare to the world I will be faithful to you through all the seasons of life.

Love does have its problems and pitfalls. Here I am speaking about the faithfulness of eternal love and then in the same breath I tell you that in your generation, love will be tested and tried by great adversities. How can this be? Love has been and will be connected with sacrifice and pain, as was the greatest act of love; the cross I bore unto death. When I say, “Love,” do you think of sentiment and romance? The way of the cross, this reproduction of My love for you, was not a sentimental, romantic, or emotional decision. I consciously chose a sacrificial love. I made a cognizant decision of My will after an intense struggle within My soul about the sacrificial cost of My decree of love to you. Why? How could I make such a choice as this? I purposely chose to love and obey My Father God and I surrendered My life because of the huge adoration between Me, My Father, and His chosen people. Infinite love was crucified as I hung on a wooden cross. When I took My last breath, the miraculous power of My sacrificial love impacted death with a final blow. I gave My life just for you and I was resurrected by the redeeming power of the love of Father God, whose heart deeply desired an unconditional, personal relationship with His children. The message of the cross portrays a picture of true, inestimable love. This kind of devotion does not travel down an easy, broad path. My infinite love

dared to run the race of this life on a difficult, narrow road. Genuine love is a hard-hitting, enduring passion that is courageous, willing, and ready to forfeit all. This is the love I have for you, Bride of Christ.

As a Bridegroom, when I think of our love relationship, I have these questions for My bride: Are you genuinely devoted to Me? Will you cherish and respect Me, even when I admonish you and we disagree? Will My affection still inspire you when your life-path is sprinkled with adversity? When things do not go as you plan, will you still believe in Me? Will your heart still soar with faith and believe there is nothing impossible with My love? When persecution touches your life because of Me, will this in any way modify your love for Me? Will you believe that My love for you remains constant and sure, when everything else is changing? Will your love for Me sway with the winds of your circumstances? Will you continue to trust Me when I do not have the answers you need, when you think you need them? Will you let Me be enough? Will you let Me lead you? My bride, when you say I am "your true love," what do you mean by that? To you, is the meaning of true love the ability to trust in the commitment and promises that I made to you, despite your state of affairs?

My church, My true love, will your devotion endure until the end? Bride, will you choose to let go of your preconceived plans and your personal agendas and find the newness of My presence, My love, and My truth in every situation you encounter? My heart's desire is that you discover how intimately I love you and you learn to love Me with an undivided, personal fidelity. Oh, My church, worship Me heart-to-heart! My bride, I have asked you many questions, ponder them in your heart. Remember, I chose you and I will love you always and infinitely forever.



### ***The Bridegroom's Word, Written on your Heart***

The love of God is immense and multifaceted. Read through these scriptures and write down every thought you have on God's love. What is the Bridegroom speaking to you personally about His love? Define and journal the characteristic of His love that He is speaking about in each scripture. How can you apply these precepts on God's love to your life? Pray this week that God's infinite love becomes more evident in your life and your finite love fades away in the light of His glorious love that is increasing in you.

#### Days 1 & 2

Jeremiah 31:3  
Hebrews 12:5-7  
Revelation 3:8-14  
1 John 4:7-14

#### Days 3 & 4

Mark 14:32-41  
John 3:16  
John 15:10-16  
Deuteronomy 7:6-9

#### Days 5 & 6

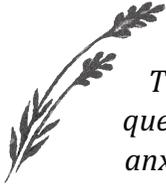
Revelation 3:19-21  
James 1:17-18  
Romans 8:31-39

#### Day 7 - Selah

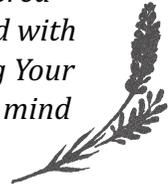
1 Peter 2:20-25  
Proverbs 3:11-18  
1 Corinthians 13:4-13



# Week 2—Questions



*The Bride asks: "Jesus, My heart is cluttered with unanswered questions. They cast a shadow of doubt, blanketing my mind with anxiety and layering my soul with fears. I wait, anticipating Your answers and when You don't respond to me right away, my mind goes crazy with doubts. I don't understand Your ways. I wonder why? Why, my Lord?"*



## The Bridegroom Speaks:

My Bride,

I have one statement for you: Because I AM.

When you ask me, "Why?" it is not the query that disturbs Me as much as the attitude I see in your heart. You are fretting and your anxieties generate fear and lead you to doubt Me. Is your heart troubled, My bride? Lately, all I have heard from you are open-ended interrogations motivated by unbelief. I am not restricted to a specific answer of, "What, when, yes, no, or how" and I may even reply by saying, "Wait." Don't disrespect Me by the unbelief and arrogance that has encased your soul. I do respond each time you ask and My response to you, even if it is not what you want to hear, is not trite; it embraces My eternal mystery of today, tomorrow, and forever.

I am warning you, My bride, your unbelief grieves Me; it influences your thoughts, attitudes, and behaviors. You question Me as one who thinks she knows it all, yet unlike Me you only see in part. Do you think you have sufficient wisdom from your life-experiences to create the all-inclusive perfect plan for your life? My promised bride, your insecurity causes you to be tossed back and forth between My wisdom and your understanding and this will be a turbulent ride for your mind. I look into the eyes of your spirit and I see waves of uncertainty breaking on the shore of your will, creating rough and unstable emotions in your soul.

My questioning one, you may not see the perfect picture today, but in My heavenly hindsight, I have finished it and it is good. My ways are sovereign and mysterious and I choose to give you just enough pieces of My plan to keep you motivated; challenging you without overwhelming you. Even so, the puzzle may never fit together on earth as it does in heaven. I can't give you the answers to all

your questions today because I am protecting your human ability to appropriately handle the full conclusion of My kingdom reality. To this day, I have only allowed you to know what you are ready to experience. I have good intentions; you must trust Me. I ask you to wait expectantly, with hope, for My revelations. I have filled this God-waiting room with My infinite love, therefore, My questioning one, sit here silently and submissively with Me. My bride, is hoping in Me not enough for you? Consequently, My answer to you is that I AM your Promised One, always and forever! Let Me be enough. I've got this. You have been guaranteed an incredible inheritance in Me and contained within this future gift is the complete answer for all your questions. Church, seek first the Kingdom of God so you are not ensnared by disposable theory.

My bride, I also have questions for you! Why do you doubt Me? Why is it you disapprove of My decisions before you trust in My methods? Why do you challenge My motives? Is our relationship shallow? Are you insecure? Do you conditionally believe in My mercy? Do you think I would do anything that was not for your good? Do you love Me with all your heart, soul, will, and mind? Are you anchored in My love? Receive My mercy right now. I forgive you, My church. Cling to Me. Dig your life-roots deeply in My infinite love.

Oh My beautiful church, I love you. How I long for you to love Me intimately and trust Me completely. I implore you to remember My faithfulness. My authentic love is certified by the many promises I have made and kept. What I say, I do. What I speak, is. This has been the strong reputation of My spoken word. My heart does not change with the cultural tides of your life. My bride, will you change your course when life gets tough and the violent winds of your generation fiercely whirl doubts around your heart? Spend more time with Me. I will teach you to not be intimidated by deceptive fears and negative thoughts. I will teach you how to sidestep the tornados that suddenly arise in your path and I will give you the wisdom to stand safely outside these temporary whirlwinds of your enemy until they spin out. Rise above the clamor of these unsettled days and see beyond your panic into My steadfast eyes. Fully face your AWE-GOD! Today, I ask you to totally surrender the helm of your life to Me and let Me chart your course. Let your first call be to Me. Abide in My love!



### ***The Bridegroom's Word, Written on your Heart***

In this good world that God created for us, we deal with our bad human issues on a daily basis. The consequences of sin are far-reaching and questions arise as we get



