

*“This Beloved of ours is merciful and good.*

*Besides, he so deeply longs for our love that he keeps calling us to come closer.*

*This voice of his is so sweet that the poor soul falls apart in the face of her own inability to instantly do whatever he asks of her.*

*And so you can see, hearing him hurts much more than not being able to hear him...*

*For now, his voice reaches us through words spoken by good people, through listening to spiritual talks, and reading sacred literature.*

*God calls to us in countless little ways all the time.*

*Through illnesses and suffering and through sorrow he calls to us.*

*Through a truth glimpsed fleetingly in a state of prayer he calls to us.*

*No matter how halfhearted such insights may be,  
God rejoices whenever we learn what he is trying to teach us.”*

— Teresa of Ávila, Interior Castle