

Friday, February 19, 2021

Dear Members and Friends of Desert Hills Lutheran,

I was reading Tony Campolo's book, *Stories That Feed the Soul*. There was a story about prayer.

One time, Mother Teresa was asked, "When you pray, what do you say to God?" She answered, "I don't say anything. I listen." Then the interviewer asked, "What does God say to you?" Mother Teresa answered, "God doesn't say anything. God listens." And then she added, "If you don't understand that, I can't explain it to you." P. 134

I read this and re-read this and thought, "I don't get it." Then I flashed to a funeral a few years after High School, of a good friend Pete. He had been killed in a car train accident. I was devastated. Sitting in that small Lutheran Church in central Minnesota before the funeral service, already packed with people, I suddenly heard sighs and soft weeping. I opened a bible and it fell open to Romans 8:26 "Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words."

God was listening. There are times when the very best prayer we offer is silence. Our thoughts will be spinning but if we offer silence and sighs, we will be heard and we will be helped.

Blessings,

Pastor Martin