



# God Hears Her Podcast Transcript

## Contagious Faith

### *Season One | Episode Ten*

- Eryn Eddy: Welcome to God Hears Her, I'm Eryn Eddy.
- Elisa Morgan: And I'm Elisa Morgan. I'm going to say a word that makes a lot of us bristle. Are you ready? Evangelism. What comes to mind? Do you feel pressure? Obligation? Do you picture a street preacher with a sandwich board sign of condemnation and hatred, yelling at people? Or maybe you don't have a negative response at all. Maybe you think of someone with whom you just shared the good news about the love of God and she responded with joy and it changed her whole life. Or maybe you think of someone who shared the good news with you and it changed your life. Regardless of how we feel, sharing the love of God with others is important. And today we're going to talk about some fresh ways to do that, that will hopefully show how contagious our faith actually is.
- Eryn Eddy: Here's Elisa as she asks us to make a most wanted list. But it's probably not what you think, or at least what I thought. This is God Hears Her.
- Elisa Morgan: Somebody challenged me to do this one time, what do you think it means? Making a most wanted list?
- Eryn Eddy: A most wanted list?
- Elisa Morgan: A most wanted list.
- Eryn Eddy: Like what do I think when I first hear that?
- Elisa Morgan: Mm-hmm (affirmative).
- Eryn Eddy: Things that I want.
- Elisa Morgan: Things that you want. Okay.
- Eryn Eddy: Things.
- Elisa Morgan: Things. You are so...
- Eryn Eddy: Literal?
- Elisa Morgan: Literal. Yeah, that's great. That's great. Okay. One of my youth leaders way back in high school challenged me, write a most wanted list. And what she meant was, "I want you to put on this list the names of the people that you want, most want, to come to know the God you love."



Eryn Eddy: Oh, that's beautiful.

Elisa Morgan: Isn't that powerful?

Eryn Eddy: I've never been asked that.

Elisa Morgan: Yeah, so think about it. If you had to write one right now, can you think of who you might put on it? I mean, I remember I wrote my mom's name, my brother's name, a couple of friends names, et cetera.

Eryn Eddy: Yeah.

Elisa Morgan: Can you say who might come to mind? You don't have to identify them, but is there a couple of people in your life?

Eryn Eddy: Yeah. My ex husband.

Elisa Morgan: Okay. Okay. Maybe top of the list there, huh?

Eryn Eddy: Yeah.

Elisa Morgan: Yeah.

Eryn Eddy: I'm trying to think of who else. I have a few friends that I can think of.

Elisa Morgan: Yeah. You know, sometimes this is just an aside, sometimes we run our little lives in such a little Jesus bubble that we don't actually-

Eryn Eddy: Have anybody that we can think of.

Elisa Morgan: Yeah.

Eryn Eddy: Yeah.

Elisa Morgan: That's kind of sad too.

Eryn Eddy: It's a good question to ask because if you don't have anybody on the list, who are you surrounding yourself with?

Elisa Morgan: So maybe if that's the case, maybe it's your grocery clerk.

Eryn Eddy: Yeah.

Elisa Morgan: Maybe it's a coworker. Maybe it's the person who walks your dog. I mean maybe it's your dog. But maybe you have some, if you just stop and think there



are probably people in your life, either central or on the fringes that you could name and be intentional. And most often on our most wanted list there is a person whose name has a coffee stain on it and the edge of the paper's kind of curled up and turning brown because it's so old, and that person has been on that list for so long. There is somebody in everybody's mind that we wish, oh and we pray that they would come to love the God we love. Somebody we love, we wish they would love the God we love.

Eryn Eddy: Yeah.

Elisa Morgan: And I think that's what I want to focus in on as we think about this list.

Eryn Eddy: Because what do you do?

Elisa Morgan: Yeah. Yeah. Who's that person in your life? Bring them along right now and all who are listening, bring that person along right now and let's talk about this. What do you do? How do you help the people you love, the person you love so much, come to know the God you love so much?

Eryn Eddy: And how do you remain patient that God's working?

Elisa Morgan: Maybe that's a principle, be patient.

Eryn Eddy: Ooh okay.

Elisa Morgan: I don't like that one. Let's talk about things we can do.

Eryn Eddy: Okay.

Elisa Morgan: Okay. Let's talk about, where do we get stuck? Because most of us are like, "Oh, I can't really tell them about Jesus because..." Fill in the blank, what will happen?

Eryn Eddy: Yeah. Fill in the blank, what would happen?

Elisa Morgan: Mm-hmm (affirmative) If I tell, okay, think whoever your person is that you want so much to know the God you love and you hesitate to say anything because?

Eryn Eddy: I think they will think I'm judging them.

Elisa Morgan: Okay.

Eryn Eddy: Or that I have all the answers and I think I'm better.



Elisa Morgan: Uh-huh (affirmative) Do you know the research that was done, it's probably been almost 20 years now, that book unChristian by David Kinnaman and Gabe Lyons?

Eryn Eddy: Yes, yeah.

Elisa Morgan: And they talked about these five characteristics that most people who don't know Jesus think of people who know Jesus; They're horrible, it's hypocritical, judgemental, too political, against gays, just horrible things. And so yeah, we're a little afraid we're going to be slammed into that category and never get back out.

Eryn Eddy: So then I just sometimes zip my lips and I don't say anything.

Elisa Morgan: Yeah. I think a really big reason I don't talk about Jesus very much is I'm afraid I'm going to get it wrong, you know?

Eryn Eddy: That's true.

Elisa Morgan: I mean, people will listen to me on Discover the Word or Ministry of Our Daily Bread and we talk about scripture here, but I got to tell you, and I have a masters of divinity, which should automatically make me brilliant biblically, not so much. I mean, I graduated from seminary in 1980, okay? Most of the world was even formed in those years and I still don't know the books of the Bible in order. You know what, I found out there was a table of contents at the beginning of the thing. It's awesome.

Eryn Eddy: I have tabs.

Elisa Morgan: Tabs work too. But I still do this kind of imposter syndrome of, "I don't really feel like I know anything." Erin, I remember one time preparing for Discover the Word, it's a group Bible study that we do, Daniel and Martin, Bill and Brian and myself, we do it around the table. I remember going, "Oh, I'm not going to get this right." And God nudged me with His spirit and just said, "Elisa, it's [inaudible 00:07:06] talking about discover the word. You don't have to have it all right."

Elisa Morgan: But I think that's one of the struggles we have in talking about the Bible or talking about God, is that somebody's going to ask me, "What's your theory on creation?" And I'm going to go, "Can you talk to my husband?" And I'm going to have ruined God's reputation.

Eryn Eddy: I agree. I struggle with somebody that's extremely confident in something not true.

Elisa Morgan: Ooh. Flesh that out for me.



Eryn Eddy: So somebody that like...

Elisa Morgan: Somebody who believes really strongly, for instance, in humanism or in being your best person or in-

Eryn Eddy: Self healer.

Elisa Morgan: Okay.

Eryn Eddy: Psychic.

Elisa Morgan: Psychic. Okay.

Eryn Eddy: That type of, they're super... Tarot cards.

Elisa Morgan: An intuitive kind of person.

Eryn Eddy: Yeah. Intuitive person that's extremely confident that that is the way. I get scared that I'm going to articulate my faith to where it sounds dumbed down. Does that make sense?

Elisa Morgan: Yes. That's kind of like what I'm saying, I'm afraid I'll do it wrong, but yeah, I think that's very well expressed, Erin. I think we really relate to that. We're afraid we're going to do it wrong. Bottom line.

Eryn Eddy: Yeah so then you almost just suppress it, but in order to get stronger in it, you have to talk about it.

Elisa Morgan: Yes. So good. Okay. So shift around a little corner here. How can we talk about our faith in such a way that those we love might come to know the God we love?

Eryn Eddy: For me, I make it personal.

Elisa Morgan: Okay.

Eryn Eddy: So I share my personal relationship with Jesus.

Elisa Morgan: Well that right there sounds kind of weird though, just being honest. [crosstalk 00:08:52]. Like your personal relationship with Jesus. No, thank you.

Eryn Eddy: Yeah. So I mean He's so part of me and what He does in my daily minute by minute that I can't not talk about Him. And so it depends on the person who I'm talking to. It depends on the level of relationship with them.



Elisa Morgan: Okay.

Eryn Eddy: Because they know that that's part of my life. He's my life, so He's just going to naturally come out. And I hope, depending on the person, I hope by them seeing the amount of light and, because I get a lot of people that will ask me about my light that's in me, I mean people that don't believe in God say, "You have so much light in you."

Elisa Morgan: And you do.

Eryn Eddy: And I can share why.

Elisa Morgan: So you give credit for it.

Eryn Eddy: And I feel like I'm still learning how to articulate it.

Elisa Morgan: Uh-huh (affirmative) Me too.

Eryn Eddy: Because I know how to do it with just Him and I. We're good.

Elisa Morgan: It is very difficult to talk about this in concrete terms. And I think one of the ways I'm hearing you say is that you tell your story.

Eryn Eddy: Yeah.

Elisa Morgan: And everybody loves a story. I mean everybody has a story. Everybody loves a story. And you really can't argue with a story.

Eryn Eddy: You can't.

Elisa Morgan: So if we can be as confident in our story, even though it sounds a little weird, as someone else is in their story, then we don't need to apologize for who God is, we can simply share who He has been to us and who He is to us.

Eryn Eddy: But how do we become confident in our story?

Elisa Morgan: Well I think we know it. We start by knowing it. I think another thing we do is, and I'm pushing on you a little bit and you're my friend, you let me, but we need to be careful of our jargon. We slip into the, "Praise Gods" and the, "Washed by the blood" and these bizarre, freaky phrases that people are like, "Ew, what are you talking about?"

Eryn Eddy: It can totally turn somebody off to not want to engage.

Elisa Morgan: Yes. "Are you smoking something? It's just weird."



- Eryn Eddy: Right.
- Elisa Morgan: And even when we talk about legitimately falling in love with Jesus-
- Eryn Eddy: Oh, yeah.
- Elisa Morgan: That can sound weird to people. So I think bringing it down to everyday life that I really believe that God loves us and I believe that our world has given Him a bum rap. And we're confused about who He is, but I really believe that the Bible shares an arc of God's divine love for us and how He made us and his desire to be in a connection with us, with his creation, and how we struggle and how He really wants to rescue us from our mess. And He did so. With Jesus. And then, it's all about inviting Jesus to take charge of some parts of your life and be back in this rescued relationship and entrusting this is a good God who is good in mind for us.
- Elisa Morgan: Okay. Just kind of walked through some of the steps there. But maybe it's a little bit more everyday language. I still have to work on mine too.
- Eryn Eddy: Yeah, I mean sometimes I'll even say, "I know that God has created me. I know that." And I think that that can be pretty simple to somebody that doesn't. I mean whether they want to believe it or not it's, "Okay. You believe something created you. A being an entity, something bigger than you made you. Okay, I can run with that." That's not talking about dancing with Jesus in your living room, that feels a little weird. Right?
- Elisa Morgan: But it's fun.
- Eryn Eddy: But I like doing that. But they might think that's odd.
- Elisa Morgan: They might.
- Eryn Eddy: But they would respect, maybe, that that would be my viewpoint, whether it's theirs or not. So I would hope that they would respect. So, "I believe that God created me." Then I say that, "I believe that he loves me. I want to learn how to love myself. How do I learn how I love myself? I want to learn the source of love. Who is God?" So I start breaking it down and asking those questions of like, "This is what I've learned about my relationship with God." With another person to make it seem a little bit more approachable and a little bit more tangible, as abstract as it feels like it is.
- Elisa Morgan: That was so good.



Elisa Morgan: And when we come back, we'll talk about some practical ways we can put feet to our faith by living and treating others in ways that show God's love to them. That's coming up on God Hears Her.

Eryn Eddy: Hey guys, if you're enjoying the show today, would you please take a minute and write a quick review and rate us on iTunes, and really on whatever podcast platform you listen to? Reviews and ratings help us reach more people, because iTunes and other podcast platforms push highly rated shows in front of more people. So if you could take a minute, write a quick review and rate us, that would be so helpful in reaching more women with the message that God Hears Her.

Elisa Morgan: Welcome back to God Hears Her, I'm Elisa Morgan.

Eryn Eddy: And I'm Eryn Eddy. And in just a moment we will continue our conversation about sharing God's love with others. But before we do, just a quick reminder that if you miss anything in today's show, the show notes are available in the podcast description or on our website at [GodHearsHer.org](http://GodHearsHer.org). The show notes offer a great overview of our conversation along with the specific talking points of this episode.

Elisa Morgan: In the show notes, you'll also find a link to a free resource. It's a booklet titled *Why We Believe: Evidences for the Christian Faith*. Sometimes we struggle to find specific answers to questions about why we believe, this free booklet offers a good next step in preparing to share with others about the hope that you have in Jesus. Just click on the link in the podcast description or on our website at [GodHearsHer.org](http://GodHearsHer.org), that's [GodHearsHer.org](http://GodHearsHer.org).

Eryn Eddy: Now back to the show. Here's Elisa as she summarizes our tool bag of faith sharing tips up to this point, and moves us forward to thinking about how we can also live out the love of God towards others. This is God Hears Her.

Elisa Morgan: We've been talking about words.

Eryn Eddy: Yeah.

Elisa Morgan: Really important. It's important to know what our story is. It's important to know how to tell our story. It's important to be able to ask other people their stories. It's important to be able to explain beyond the jargon of our faith what this means. We can also, I think, help those we love know the God we love by acting, right? By our actions, by being like Jesus. Remember that little phrase WWJD? What Would Jesus Do? Back in the whatever eon that was a go. But bottom line, that was a call to put feet on your faith. That's a call to, Rick Warren calls it, a second conversion. So where you don't just believe it, but you do it. You act it out.





Elisa Morgan: So what does that look like for us? How do we do that? I mean, is that just helping the homeless shelters? Is that donating old clothes? What is that?

Eryn Eddy: I mean I go to Galatians.

Elisa Morgan: Okay.

Eryn Eddy: Fruit of the spirit.

Elisa Morgan: Okay.

Eryn Eddy: Peace, kindness, gentleness.

Elisa Morgan: Self control.

Eryn Eddy: Self control.

Elisa Morgan: Yeah, faithfulness, these qualities that aren't things that we produce in ourselves.

Eryn Eddy: Right.

Elisa Morgan: Because I've tried.

Eryn Eddy: Oh, I'm easily angered, right?

Elisa Morgan: Yeah.

Eryn Eddy: I'm just kidding.

Elisa Morgan: It didn't come out right.

Eryn Eddy: Impulsive? Maybe.

Elisa Morgan: Yeah, not self control. But God produces these qualities in us and I think that's what you're talking about when people look at you and they see the light in you. That's the fruit of the spirit. His character shines out of you. But it does go into action. It goes into... Okay, this is really a small thing. I used to be in this small group and there were like, I don't know, six couples in it and we met once a month. And this couple had a small little house. It was really sweet, with two little love seats, and they were so kind to open it up and it was always at their house.

Elisa Morgan: And every time I would show up with my Bible, with my husband and I'd plop down in this right hand corner of the couch and get all ready. And one day, and



we're talking like a half a year into this, she goes, "Elisa, why do you always take the best seat?" And I was like... I didn't know. I thought it was my spot, we do these things. And she knows Jesus. She loved Jesus. But what it taught me was when I go into a room, I think about it and she served me in such a way that I think about it and I will put other people first.

Eryn Eddy: Yeah, that's good.

Elisa Morgan: And that sounds so worksy, I don't mean it that way, but there is a way we demonstrate humility, our place in the world, who Jesus is, by how we act.

Eryn Eddy: Absolutely. What I think is so important, and just every day, whenever you go get groceries or like a clerk or a waitress or waiter in the service industry, God sees me. I know he sees me.

Elisa Morgan: Yeah He does.

Eryn Eddy: I want to see other people and I want to treat them with love and respect and treat them not like they're doing something for me and it's a circumstantial exchange. But to actually see somebody. Like when I get my coffee, I acknowledge the person that has a name tag. "Jenny, thank you so much. Are you having a good day?" And I'm genuine about it. I want her to know that I see her. But that could sound arrogant, right? Or like, "Okay, your spirit, you see someone." But I just mean demonstrating that and know that God sees me and I know that feeling.

Elisa Morgan: This is the actions we're talking about, is that we're living out who God is through us. And it's like, "Oh, diminish yourself." It's like a choice to cooperate with his work and what he's doing.

Elisa Morgan: Here's another thing I think, most of the people I love that I want to know the God I love and don't yet, don't because they're different from me. And I can be all verklempt about that and like, "Oh, they're different from me. And so they're not going to be in my club or they're not going to even be at my table or they're not even going to be on my radar because they're different. They're different from what I think people should be."

Elisa Morgan: And wow has Jesus nailed me with that, in the most loving way of course, as He does, because He took the nails for us all. I mean, honestly, but He has just gently gone, "Elisa, do you think any of those things keep me from loving those people? Quit trying to add to what's necessary to know me. All that's necessary to know me is to open and be willing to know me." And I'm adding behavior ticks and you know, a list of how you're supposed to respond and what you're supposed to know and who you're supposed to be with and who you're not supposed to be with and what you're supposed to be doing, what you're not supposed to be doing, and what industry you're in and what industry you're not



supposed to be at. All in a tight little wad. And Jesus is going, "Chill, sweet pea. I've got this, just love them. Just love that person."

- Eryn Eddy: Meeting them where they're just at instead of imposing. Is it imposing?
- Elisa Morgan: I think that's the right word.
- Eryn Eddy: To make you feel more comfortable?
- Elisa Morgan: Yeah, yeah. See, I love how you're going to the motivation behind what we do. We're all squirmy with certain kinds of behaviors or attitudes or even beliefs. Jesus isn't squirmy.
- Eryn Eddy: No.
- Elisa Morgan: He's not going, "Ew."
- Eryn Eddy: No.
- Elisa Morgan: He's going, "I got this."
- Eryn Eddy: He's like the most chill and I'm like little Tasmanian devil.
- Elisa Morgan: Yeah you are, you are. And it's not like he doesn't understand that there is evil.
- Eryn Eddy: Absolutely.
- Elisa Morgan: And that there are things that are unwise and not good for us and even disastrous to us, but He's not freaking out about it. I think about Him in the presence of the demon possessed man with the pigs, and He's in the gerasenes, This is in Luke. This guy has been ranting and he's naked among the tombs and Jesus sends the demon into the pigs and the man is restored.
- Eryn Eddy: Whoa.
- Elisa Morgan: And he goes into the village and he's clothed and in his right mind. Jesus has this. He's got that person you love so much that you want to know the God that you love. He's got them. Is the timeline the same as what we want? Is the end result the same is what we want?
- Elisa Morgan: I remember longing for my mom who she told me she knew Jesus as a child, but then in her adult years I didn't see so much evidence of it. And I was very zealous and wanting to save my mom. And she died when I was 34. And on her death bed, I watched her reaching out to the space next to me. It was the most bizarre thing. And so I pushed my body over so she can see me better and she'd just gently pull me back out of that empty space and reach out into that empty



space. And I was like, "Mother, do you see something?" And she could barely talk. And she said, "Jesus."

Elisa Morgan: And I'm like, "Oh my goodness. All my Tasmanian devil stuff has made no difference. It's really just his love reaching her in my continued presence with her." And I remember after she died, having this overwhelming sense of comfort that she was with Him and that she did know Him and that she could see me as I was now and she hadn't been able to in some ways before, because of her own issues. It's a long process.

Eryn Eddy: Gosh, that's beautiful.

Elisa Morgan: Jesus has it. He's got it. God has it. And maybe we don't need to clutch it quite so tightly, but rather just be there and be involved.

Elisa Morgan: If you're bringing that person forward again, that you're struggling with, now that we've unpacked and peeled back some of these layers, what other hesitations are being revealed in maybe what you're afraid to do or say? Maybe what God might be wooing you to be?

Eryn Eddy: I love in Jeremiah where his conversation with the Lord and he says, "But I'm so young." And the Lord says, "Don't say that." And He puts His hand over his mouth and He says, "I will put my words in you and I will use you." I think sometimes for me, I have a hard time, not believing that He will use me, but maybe trusting that He will put the words. And I know that story's in a different context for what came from, but I do think God will put words in my mouth and He will use me. And it might be years later or it might be in a timing of which the... Like you were saying.

Elisa Morgan: Yeah, yeah.

Eryn Eddy: But for me, I think it's trusting his timing, trusting that I'll say the right words.

Elisa Morgan: So good.

Eryn Eddy: Knowing that it's not by my strength but his strength, and leaning in on that.

Elisa Morgan: When Jesus is in the upper room talking to his disciples in John 15, 16, 17 and He prays for the disciples, He talks about the gift of the Holy Spirit that He's going to send. And He talks about that very thing that, "When you're standing before the authorities, I will give you the words to say." But Jesus is very clear that He's praying for disciples for all times to come, not just in the first century, but for the 21st century. That He will provide His presence and He will provide the Holy Spirit as a gift, as an advocate and a counselor who will direct us.



- Elisa Morgan: So I do think you're right. I think when we open up our mouths and our lives to share with those we love, God will provide what we need in those moments.
- Eryn Eddy: And he'll give us the endurance. The endurance to run the long race.
- Elisa Morgan: And the patience and the trust that he's got this. You know, I told you the story about my mom, well my dad was nearing death and I flew down to be close to him and I had begged God to be present to him and my dad was very resistant. I knew, my mom had died a couple years prior, and I knew what God had done, that just miraculous moment at her deathbed, He just assured me that she would be with Him. And so I kind of fully expected God to do that with my dad. I mean, I just did. And I got there and he was barely conscious and I prayed in his ear and I was with him for, gosh it was like, 10 days and the last day he breathed in and breathed out and breathed in and breathed out and breathed no more.
- Elisa Morgan: And I went, "Oh my gosh, God, he's gone. And I don't know where he's gone." And he'd been at the top of my most wanted list and it probably took six months or so of grieving and processing that lack of assurance. And of course I'd read the verses on, "God is not wanting anyone to perish. He's patient with all." From the letters in the New Testament. But what eventually happened, as I understood, is that I faced a choice of trust myself. Would I trust God to be an all faithful, all loving judge? Would I trust Him to determine where my dad was, where he had gone?
- Elisa Morgan: And so I think that's where we sit with our most wanted list, is that we need to learn to share our stories and listen to their stories and get rid of the jargon and be present and look people in the eye and see them and all these things we're talking about. And we need to pray like crazy, pray. But in the end we do our own work by trusting that God has this.
- Eryn Eddy: God does have it. And whether it's a son or a daughter, a best friend, or a parent, God loves them too, more than you do. And even if you feel like you've done something wrong and perhaps cause someone to walk away from God, or if you heard Elisa's story about her dad and felt a twinge of guilt because someone you loved died and you never took time to share with them about the love of God, this is an invitation to let those burdens slide off your back and to let Jesus carry them instead. Because He is the great pursuer and He's a loving judge who does what is right.
- Eryn Eddy: Yes, we all need to share the love of God with others, but with the reminder that God ultimately is the one who does the hard work of wooing someone's heart to follow Him.
- Elisa Morgan: If you're listening and you think you may have missed something during the show today, the show notes are available in the podcast description. There



you'll find the talking points of today's episode and also some helpful links. We have a link to the new God Sees Her devotional. We also have a link to a free ebooklet that could help you share your faith called Why We Believe: Evidences for the Christian Faith. It can help you prepare a little bit more to share the hope you have in Jesus with others. All of this and more is available in the show notes, which can be found in the podcast description or on our website, [GodHearsHer.org](http://GodHearsHer.org). That's [GodHearsHer.org](http://GodHearsHer.org).

Eryn Eddy: And while you're online, could you take a few moments to rate us and maybe write a review of this podcast? Ratings and reviews help us reach more women with a message that God Hears Her. So if you like the show or enjoyed this episode, please just take a few moments to give us some stars and write a sentence or two about what this show means to you.

Elisa Morgan: Thanks for joining us today, and don't forget God sees you, He hears you, He loves you because you are His.

Elisa Morgan: Hey guys, before we go, I just want to say a quick thank you to some of the people who helped make this podcast happen. Marcy, Amy, and Brian, you guys rock. Thank you so much.