



# Following a Different Path

Although I've formed opinions and deep thought over the years on the subject which I've shared with my family, I've never really sat down to express it in print before. Sometimes I'm surprised at what it looks like in words because these thoughts have formed and governed my choices for over twenty years on this subject. I have no idea why I'm telling it to you, but I do know it feels good to express my heart; and you are so kind to read and try to understand God's promise. He has not forgotten me.

Years ago I went through a time when my few friends were in the process of catching their "men," the Lord began to work in my heart to give the choice of my future to Him. It was a rather difficult thing to do, but I was encouraged because everything I have ever entrusted into His care He has faithfully cared for and prospered. This meant that not only the choice would be His, but also the timing. Then, He went deeper into my heart-house and opened the door of my choice of career, asking me for permission to have that choice, too. This meant that He would determine my sphere of influence and the provisions He placed in my pocket, too.

## Trusting God's Plan

On the career end, He created a work for me out of nothing. I have no college education; and, therefore, everything I have and the knowledge I have is His sovereign gift to my life. As I look back over my young years, I can see now how He was preparing me for the work I now do from second grade and on, but I never dreamed I would be doing what I am now. I always have enough financial provision - not so much that I forget God, and not so little that I have want.

## Only One For Me

When I gave the choice to the Lord, I understood that there wouldn't be a couple or more choices to choose from. When I was finally able to surrender the choice to the Lord, He gave me a promise that He would make it so I would know, beyond a shadow of a doubt, His choice when the time came. He first built a hedge of protection around my heart house, an obstacle course, and a maze to get the front door. I know that only ONE could ever make it through it all because he will have God's wisdom and guidance will have been prepared and given the keys to my heart.

I have had a few who have entered the first hurdles of the obstacle course but have turned (themselves) away which made me sad. One of them angrily declared (in a fit of temper) that I wasn't an "easy one," and that I wasn't worth it. I had one who tried to skip it all and after speaking one paragraph to me (in my entire life) sent me a letter asking me to marry him, saying that I could learn to love him. That was a shocking experience, but I didn't condemn him for it - his heart was in it - I was thankful for my father at that moment, and he took care of the matter: gently at first, and when the point wasn't caught, more clearly after.

## **Give Jesus Your Heart**

When I was a little girl, I gave Jesus my heart and I have never taken it back. He has cared for me through difficulties and moments when He was refining my character, allowing me to realize that there are things out there that can damage me, and opening my eyes to the understanding of what life is really all about. There were times when I could have taken one more step in a wrong direction and I would have destroyed my life. There were times when I was confused and felt lost in darkness, but He was always there: protecting me, keeping me, and making sure I would get where I needed to go.

## **Keys to My Heart**

You see, it is only because of His keeping grace that I am here... and it is only because of His mercy that I stand in my heart-house with everything He has given me and kept for me. While ultimately I look forward to Heaven and knowing the perfect love of God, I also look forward to tasting a prelude and example of that here on earth. When this fellow makes it to the door of my heart, keys in hand, I still have everything to give him... and only because of the mercy and grace of God.

There is a scripture verse in the precious Book that says, "Love and faithfulness meet together; righteousness and peace kiss each other." - Psalm 85:10. Truly God's love and faithfulness have met together in my life. And, His perfect, holy righteousness covering my unworthiness has given me much peace.

## **Filling the Void**

Perhaps my musings are not worldly-wise; but from the time I was a young teenager, the basis of my thought has been based on an understanding of the book of Genesis. When God made Adam and Eve, he made them with a special place - a "hole" - in each of their hearts that only He could fill in fellowship and friendship with them. When they sinned, they lost that daily communion with Him. God didn't give up and made a way through the cross that they could have that communion once again, and the empty void of the heart can be filled with the only puzzle piece that perfectly fits.

Many try different things to fill that void and are never fully satisfied. So, my prayer from my teenage years has been that whoever God has for me will be fully satisfied in his heart with God and that he will have found that He is the only puzzle-piece that truly fills the emptiness and void. Then, when I have the joy of becoming his wife, it will be just the "icing on the cake" to his happiness.

## **Fully Satisfied**

I pray every day for this fellow I've not yet met and trust that my Father God is hard at work in his life as He is in mine. Then, one day when we meet, we will be two complete and satisfied people becoming one happy union... instead of two confused people searching for true love, trying desperately to fill the void of the heart with the puzzle-piece of each other that won't fit. Only Jesus is the answer. He fills that special God-created void fully and completely. I know.

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