



Intersection ... and Sudden Turns

The older you get ... and the longer you've been doing something a particular way, the harder it is to take sudden turns ... to make changes. Just ask Elizabeth. You know, the really old woman in the Bible who got pregnant. Her husband's name: Zechariah. The narrative is in Luke 1.

First truth: Every life has joy ... and unexplainable and unfair hardships.

Second truth: God dwells in eternity, but He has a perfect sense of timing.

God isn't in a hurry. God isn't surprised by the sudden turns of life. He knows about every page in the book of your life. And we are never victims. God has a plan. The text doesn't tell us this, but we get the feeling that the barrenness of Elizabeth ... the long wait for these two godly people to have children ... was a symbol of the long wait of Israel for the coming of the Messiah.

How could these two old people have ever imagined that something like this would happen in their life, that Elizabeth's barrenness was part of God's amazing purposes for the whole earth? In fact, it's so amazing, so ridiculously unbelievable, that Zechariah doesn't believe it. Not even from an angel from God!

Third truth: Sometimes we get so stuck in the moment we can't see eternity, even when eternity is yelling at us.

Through all of life ... up and down ... right and left ... there has to be faith ... the evidence of things not seen ... the deep assurance of things hoped for even though you might be beyond hope.

Fourth truth: God's plans for us can take sudden and unexpected turns. Sometimes it even feels like God is interrupting our lives, disrupting our sense of stability. Or is He knocking us out of our ruts?!

I'm going to:

- Run
- Hide
- Whine
- Get angry and bitter.
- Face life head-on. Take one step at a time. And confess this: I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

More notes: