



Jesus Christ Above All Devotion

The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad (Psalm 126:3).

I was a teacher in the United States and wanted to do mission work during the summers when I was not teaching. My first trip was planned. I was very excited about it. I was excited to see another country and to find out what it was like to be a missionary. The trip was a week long. We flew to Guatemala, then traveled around the country to see the work done by Wycliffe Bible Translators.

While there, I felt God impress upon my heart the importance of teachers for missionary kids (MKs). Some families have to leave the mission field and return to the U.S. because there is no one to teach their children. I didn't want that to happen. I knew I could do something to help those MKs, but I did not want to leave my home. During the few remaining days there I prayed that if God really wanted me to go, He would make me want to go. I was in crisis wanting my own way. I needed His help to let go of what I wanted to make room for the blessings God wanted to give me. *For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too (2 Corinthians 1:5).*

By the power of the Holy Spirit, in faith I put Christ above all else. By the time my plane landed in the United States, I wanted to go back. Two years later when I arrived in Guatemala to teach at a school for MKs, I could see that God had gone before me and prepared a way and a home for me in a foreign land. There were many details I saw that He took care of before I had even thought of coming to Guatemala. I found out that two years before I arrived others had been praying for someone to come. I saw the blessings God wanted to give me. *The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad (Psalm 126:3).*

As the months passed if I had a concern or worry that came up, I thought, "Hasn't God already met so many of my needs? Won't He take care of this need as well?" When I remembered the great things He did for me in the past, it was easier to trust Him for the present and the future. *"I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope" (Acts 2:25b-26).*

Is God nudging you to do something out of your comfort zone? Recall times in your past when He has taken care of you as you stepped out in faith to do something in His name. God promises, *"... I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you" (Joshua 1:5b).*

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You for always being with us. For Jesus' sake, forgive us for the times we have stubbornly tried to do things on our own and in our own way. Open our hearts so that we may see Your good and perfect will for our lives. Help us to follow You and to see all the blessings You work in our lives in every situation. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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