

Day Seventeen: Abiding – God's Plan Not Mine

For I know the plans I have for you, “declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Jeremiah 29:11

In this life we think many times we are alone. Especially when we have not been exposed to church or Jesus. We have no hope for a future and believe everyone is out to get us.

I was that person and I remember this feeling of loneliness starting in middle school. I was quiet and shy and never fit in so I was bullied and teased and had no friends. I remember those years as the worst time of my life. I certainly didn't know of Jesus and his love for me. And all I really knew was the sadness of my home life and the pain of rejection from school and dysfunctional parents. The only God I was exposed to was the one who I would hear about from a priest at the funeral of an old family member.

It wasn't until alone in a jail cell I sat, after many years of trying to numb my pain with alcohol and drugs that I was handed a bible and invited to a bible study. I fell in love with God's Word and His promises. Then and only then did I finally see who this Jesus Son of God really was.

I saw that He suffered more rejection and pain than I ever had experienced. I also learned that for every one step I took towards God He always took 10 steps right back to me and that in all the pain I've experienced in this life He has had me in the palm of His hand the whole time. He had plans to prosper me and not to harm me. He gave me beauty for my ashes and has even given me a flashlight to go back into the dark I was once stuck in and shine the light to get others out.

“No matter what you face in life, don't let go of God's hand”
Unknown