

The Great Adventure

*Started out this morning in the usual way
Chasing thoughts inside my head - of all I had to do today
Another time around the circle - Try to make it better than the last
I opened up the Bible - And I read about me
Said I'd been a prisoner - And God's Grace had set me free
And somewhere between the pages - It hit me like a lightning bolt
I saw a big frontier in front of me - And I heard somebody say let's go*

*Saddle up your horses - We've got a trail to blaze
Through the wild blue yonder of God's Amazing grace
Let's follow our leader into the Glorious unknown
This is the life like no other - This is The Great Adventure*

Steven Curtis Chapman has become one of the most prolific songwriters of Christian Music. He has been recording for over 30 years and has many popular songs that are used in weddings, have become Hymns, and that have been sung by church choirs around the world. His album “*The Great Adventure*” catapulted him to recognition with many Dove awards and he continues to bless audiences around the world spreading the gospel message through his music. Inside the cover sleeve of his album Steven wrote these words that resonate in my heart and that I will never forget:

“The Journey of life begins each day with God’s grace stretching out as far as the eye can see. The miracle of His grace in motion is given freely to those who will receive Him by faith. This is life like no other – This is The Great Adventure!”

We are starting not only a new year but also a new decade! What awaits us is truly a Great Adventure! Our personal lives and our church face new challenges but I can’t help but dwell on God’s Word in Jeremiah 29:11-13 which says, ***“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. ¹² Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. ¹³ You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. ¹⁴ I will be found by you,” declares the LORD...”***

Take in those words for a moment. I know we have all heard these verses many times before but let them soak in. God has a plan for us, not to harm us, but to give us hope and a future. But what do we do. We make our own plans and devise our own schemes that lead us away from His will and the path He has laid out for us. Have we ever considered that maybe some of the trials and tribulations we face are because we choose to wander away from the path He has laid out for us? Think of Moses or the prophet Jonah when they tried to go their own way and not follow God’s will. We may not like the path God chooses for us but it is the better path.

As we begin anew as a church searching for a shepherd to lead us, my prayer is that we diligently seek the Lord and patiently listen for His guidance. Let us continue to minister and share the gospel message to our community, nation, and the world. May our priority in all decisions be centered on furthering the kingdom of Jesus Christ our Lord. To God be the Glory for great things he has done and will do!

Keep the Faith,

Bro. Andrew