

## More than Survivors

Randy Reid, a 34 year old welder, was working near the top of a newly constructed water tower outside Chicago when he slipped and fell 110 feet to the ground below. Barely missing rocks and debris, Reid landed on a six-foot, soft pile of dirt near the base of the tower. Within minutes rescue workers responded to the 911 call made by Reid's panicked co-workers who had watched him plummet to the ground. Miraculously, a bruised lung was the only injury the shaken construction worker sustained. Ironically, as he was being carried to the ambulance on a stretcher, he looked into the faces of the paramedics and nervously pleaded, "Please, don't drop me!"

Is this you? On one day you see God answer what you would describe as a huge prayer request, and then the next day something smaller comes up in your life and you begin to worry. It happens to all of us. That's just life. It has its ups and downs. Life is a bumpy ride. Martin Luther said, "I can't stop a bird from flying down and landing on my head, but I can keep him from building a nest." Yes, there are times of groaning, loneliness, sickness and anxiety, but they do not have to take over our lives and be the norm for us. We have to believe that God has something better for us, and that these frustrations only help us to focus even more on the good things God has for us.

There are two songs that come immediately to my mind that speak about this. "Because He lives I can face tomorrow, because He lives all fear is gone, because I know He holds the future, and life is worth the living just because He lives." The other song goes, "I don't know about tomorrow, I just live from day to day. I don't borrow from its sunshine, for its skies may turn to gray. I don't worry over the future, for I know what Jesus said, and today I'll walk beside Him, for He knows what is ahead. Many things about tomorrow, I don't seem to understand, but I know who holds tomorrow, and I know who holds my hand."

During World War II there were a group of French prisoners who were forced to work in a German munitions factory. Upon realizing that the very bombs they were building were being used to destroy their beloved homeland, they made the decision to create a malfunction in the devices that detonates the bombs. The bombs were designed to explode on impact, but with the changes that the prisoners made, the bombs were harmless... no explosion occurred. Puzzled by so many failed attacks, the French government finally conducted an investigation. Upon opening the bombs, they found slips of paper inside which read, "We are doing the best we can with what we've got, where we are, every chance we get." When we trust in God we are saying, "We are doing the best we can with what we've got, every chance we get." Why? Because we know God is faithful.

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