



Seasons of Change Devotionals

Embracing a New Normal

*See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.
Isaiah 43:19*



Your circumstances may have shaped who you are but you are responsible for who you become. So many “new things” have come into my life through Josiah’s death – streams in the wasteland, artesian wells springing up – new friendships, new activities and new hobbies.

My neighbor, Mary Lee, whom I only knew through carpooling, lost her beautiful 12-year-old daughter, Breanna, shortly after Josiah died. Though neither of us had ever even drawn a decent stick figure we began doing what we called “art therapy” together.

Meeting at my house we would splatter red and black paint together until we laughed and cried. Through this simple shared activity God began to weave our souls together. Today, 18 years later, we are still BFF’s.

Chris, to whom I was introduced because we both lost our kids (she lost both of her children), is another BFF. Daily we hike 3-4 miles finding nurturing in nature and each other. We’re going on our fourth year together.

I never gardened BJD. Now planting and watching green things live and grow is my new happy hobby. It is the antithesis to death!

Dr. Paul Tripp, in the GriefShare video, shares a tremendous insight that “God will take us where we don’t want to go, to produce in us things that we could not achieve on our own.”

By attending GriefShare, Umbrella retreats, Compassionate Friends etc. you will find yourself inducted into a new circle of friends. We all say it’s a club we never wanted to join but it is a club where we are with people who understand us in a way most old friends never will.

Be open to these new friendships and opportunities and God will take it from there.



DIGGING DEEPER or FOR FURTHER MEDITATION

Old things have passed away, new things have come. II Corinthians 5:17

What is God busy doing in your life?

Life will never be the same as it was. Can you believe that life being different does not mean that life will be worse?

How do we comfort each other? (II Corinthians 1:4)

Consider inviting one of your new friends for coffee.

