

When Our Father Says, “See My Child, I Was There All the Time.”

(Adapted from *When God Winks*, by Squire Rushnell)

Introduction:

My relationship with God determines how I will live, how I will die and where I will spend eternity. All of these things happen through faith. Every person is given a measure of faith. Some have more and some have less, but all have some. I don't need to pray for more faith, I need to put to work the faith I have already been given by God and watch it grow. That I continue to grow closer and closer to the heart of God through faith is God's desire for my life. He continually provides for me opportunities for my faith to grow and with each opportunity He surrounds it with evidences of His guiding and His blessing. God doesn't come to mankind and talk with us in the flesh. If He did, there would be no need to accept Him by faith. Instead, He gives us what the world calls coincidences and what we call divine interventions. He reveals to us His activity in our lives. These are what author Squire Rushnell calls, “God Winks.” Just as a loving parent or grand parent will wink to show love and approval for their child or grand child, God's miraculous interventions in our lives reveal His love and approval for each of us – His children. He is continually trying to nudge us and whisper to our minds, “See, I'm here my child!”

There is no such thing as a “coincidence” in the life of a child of God. Mrs. White says,

The Father's presence encircled Christ, and nothing befell Him but that which infinite love permitted for the blessing of the world. Here was His source of comfort, and it is for us. He who is imbued with the Spirit of Christ abides in Christ. The blow that is aimed at him falls upon the Savior, who surrounds him with His presence. Whatever comes to him comes from Christ... Nothing can touch him except by our Lord's permission, and “all things” that are permitted “work together for good to them that love God.” (Romans 8:28)
–*Mount of Blessings*, p. 71

Reflection:

Think of the major “cross roads” you have experienced in your life where the decision you made took you one direction when it could have gone a totally different direction. Reflect on any one of those experiences and ask God to reveal to you what He did FOR you and IN you through that experience.

Start a journal of the “turning points” in your life. For each one, reflect on the thoughts that you were thinking, the events that were occurring, your surroundings, people who were instrumental.

Whenever “turning points” occur in your journey, write them down in your journal and ask the Holy Spirit to open your mind to your Father's presence in them and through them.

Discovery:

Every day, God is at work giving you experiences and giving you thoughts regarding those experiences. By tracking these experiences back to your Father who provided them, you will grow deeper and deeper in your faith relationship with Him.

FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU,
DECLARES THE LORD,
PLANS TO HELP YOU AND NOT HARM YOU.
PLANS TO GIVE YOU HOPE AND A FUTURE.
–Jeremiah 29:11