What about when it doesn't happen the way you wanted?

Sometimes there is a lesson to learn.

John 16:33 - "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

Sometimes it's about the experience.

1 Samuel 16:7 - But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearances, but the Lord looks at the heart.

1. God is a big God.

1 Kings 19:4-5 - While he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, Lord," he said. Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors." Then he lay down under the bush and fell asleep.

2. I tend to have a harder time believing truth than rejecting lies.

Deuteronomy 31:8 - The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

3. We are supposed to be a conduit rather than a cul de sac.

Hebrews 13:16 - And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

4. The worst thing that can happen is not the worst thing that can happen.

Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

5. Wouldn't it be better to die with Him than to live without Him?

Philippians 1:21 - For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. We will not always see how God intends to turn something for our good(lesson above), but it's better to be with Him than without Him.

6. Peace is not the opposite of conflict, it is the opposite of anxiety.

Matthew 8:26 - He replied, "You of little faith, why are you so afraid?" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm.

7. It is not about ability, it is about availability.

Isaiah 6:8 - Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. send me!"

8. When everything is going just right no one can really tell who we truly are.

1 Peter 1:6-7 - In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith - of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire - may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

9. Troubles are an invitation to do life together with Him.

Matthew 11:28-30 - "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

10. Make an epic statement.





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Joshua 24:14-15 - 14 "Now fear the Lord and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. 15 But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."