15 FAITHFUL CHRISTIAN STORIES OF GOD

By Chaplain Paul D Vescio 193

Reflections of My Weary Soul

One day, as I stood before the bathroom mirror, my reflection began to change. My face was no longer my own—it was etched with scars, each one bearing the weight of years of service in Arizona Long Term Care. Tears welled in my eyes as I recognized that every scar on my soul carried a name—a patient I had loved deeply, who had suffered unjustly before passing away. The grief was overwhelming, and I turned away, unable to face it any longer.

Then, I heard the gentle voice of Abba Father:

"My child, look in the mirror again."

Reluctantly, I raised my weary head. To my astonishment, I was no longer alone. Standing with me in the reflection was Christ our Lord. His presence filled me with both awe and peace.

He spoke with a tenderness that pierced my sorrow:

"Fear not, Chaplain Paul. I have been with you all along. Now let Me help you wash these scars away with My living water. Remember, I will never leave you nor forsake you. Come, walk with Me."

Reaching out His hand, He invited me to step forward. Suddenly, I found myself no longer bound by the weight of this world. Instead, I stood with Him, bathed in the glory of Heaven. Every scar, every burden, and every tear was being washed away.

As I stood in that place of perfect peace, His words echoed in my heart:

"See, I am making all things new."

At that moment, Revelation 21:4 became alive to me:

"He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

The promise of this verse filled me with hope. It reminded me that all the pain and sorrow I had witnessed were not the end of the story. God, in His infinite love, is writing a new chapter—one of redemption, healing, and eternal joy.

And so, even as I carry the memories of those I have served, I move forward with renewed strength, knowing that Christ walks with me. The scars of my soul are no longer marks of despair but testimonies of His enduring presence and grace.

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you, not as the world gives do I give to you, let not your heart be troubled neither let it be afraid…Amen

THE OPEN DOOR by 193

I stood at the edge of a vast, tranquil lake, staring in disbelief at a single door standing upright in the middle of the water. Its purpose and meaning eluded me, and yet, I couldn't tear my eyes away.

As I pondered this strange sight, a small boat drifted into view. Without understanding why, tears began to stream down my face. Something stirred deep within me, as if the Spirit of God was drawing me. I stepped into the boat, and it began moving toward the door as if guided by an unseen hand.

The journey across the lake began peacefully, but soon a fierce storm arose. The calm waters churned into towering waves, and the sky darkened with anger. Lightning flashed, illuminating the chaos, while thunder roared like a lion. The boat tossed violently, and fear gripped my heart. I clung desperately to the sides, certain I would be thrown overboard and drown.

Finally, the boat reached the door, which stood on a small patch of land in the middle of the stormy waters. Soaking wet and trembling, I stepped out of the boat and approached the door. Rain poured down, and the wind howled around me, yet the door stood firm, radiating a warm, inviting light.

I reached out, turned the handle, and opened the door. To my astonishment, there stood Christ Yeshua, His arms open wide, His face shining with love and peace.

"Come," He said gently, and I stepped through.

In an instant, the storm faded away, replaced by a serene, sunlit meadow. Fruit trees swayed in a gentle breeze, and a sparkling stream meandered peacefully nearby. The air was alive with the fragrance of life and renewal.

As I walked with Christ through the meadow, He turned to me and said, "Even in the midst of the fiercest storms, I have been with you. I have never left your side. I AM the Sheep Gate. I AM the Way, the Truth, and the Life. I AM the True Vine and the Bread of Life. I AM the Good Shepherd, the Light of the World, the Resurrection and the Life. I AM the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last. I AM KING OF kings AND LORD OF lords, and I am coming back soon in all My glory."

Tears of gratitude filled my eyes as He spoke, and I felt a peace unlike anything I had ever known. John 14:27 Peace

Then His words echoed in my heart:
"Behold, I am coming soon, and My reward is with Me, to give to each according to his deeds. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End."
(Revelation 22:12-13)

And in that moment, I understood that no matter how fierce the storms of life may be, He is always there—our refuge, our guide, and our salvation. Amen.

Matthew 14:22-33 **Christ Yeshua Walks on the Water**

22 Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other
side, while he dismissed the crowd. 23 After he had dismissed them, he went up on a
mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, 24 and the boat was already
a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

25 Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. 26 When the disciples saw
him walking on the lake, they were terrified. “It’s a ghost,” they said, and cried out in fear.

27 But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.”

28 “Lord, if it’s you,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.”

29 “Come,” he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. 30 But when he
saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!”

31 Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. “You of little faith,” he said, “why
did you doubt?”

32 And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. 33 Then those who were in the boat
worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

A DREAM ENCOUNTER WITH CHRIST OUR LORD

I walked in a soft dream through an apple orchard sitting by a running stream, I saw a picture of a snow man standing by a Ferris wheel full of pink and blue cotton candy. Then a circus elephant came walking by and gave me a big purple balloon and when I took hold of the string it lifted me high in the sky and I suddenly found myself in Heaven sitting with our Lord and Savior Christ Yeshua.

Our Lord looked at me and said, "Peace be with you, My peace I give to you, not as the world gives do I give to you, let not your heart be troubled neither let it be afraid then Pastor Shon tapped me on my shoulder and said,

"Jesus loves you and so do I."

I began to cry. Thomas and Laurie, Greg and Pastor Bill and many others who I had helped minister to over the years were all there to greet me. Then the Lord gave me a hug and the next thing I knew I was waking up in the recovery room of the hospital and suddenly I was at peace knowing Christ loves me and He is real...Amen

John 10:11-18 11 “I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep.

So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. 13 The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

14 “I am the Good Shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know Me— 15 just as the Father knows Me and I know the Father—and I lay down My life for the sheep.

16 I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to My voice, and there shall be one flock and one Shepherd. 17 The reason My Father loves Me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. 18 No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of My own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from My Father.

CHAT GPT RESPONSE OCT 2024

What a beautiful and profound dream, full of vivid imagery and deep spiritual meaning! The apple orchard, stream, and the fantastical elements like the Ferris wheel and the elephant seem to symbolize peace, joy, and innocence. The purple balloon lifting you to the heavens where you encountered Christ Yeshua is such a powerful representation of ascending into His presence.

The words of our Lord from John 14:27 about peace being given to us, not as the world gives, reflect the heart of your message. He offers a peace that surpasses all understanding, and through your dream, it became so personal and intimate.

When Pastor Shon tapped you on the shoulder and said, “Jesus loves you and so do I,” it brought the reality of Christ's love for you even deeper into your heart. The presence of those you've ministered to, like Thomas, Laurie, and Greg, speaks to the eternal impact of the love and service you've given over the years. And finally, waking up in the recovery room, finding yourself at peace, reinforces the reality of Christ's constant presence and love in both your spiritual journey and physical life.

The passage from John 10:11-18 is such a fitting scripture for this experience. Jesus, as the Good Shepherd, knows and loves His sheep intimately, and He laid down His life for us willingly. Your dream feels like a reminder of His selfless love and how you, like His sheep, are safely held in His care.

May this dream continue to bring you comfort and strength as you serve others and walk in the peace of Christ. Amen.

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you, not as the world gives do I give to you, let not your heart be troubled neither let it be afraid…

A WHIMSICAL STORY OCT 2024

Within each drop of water is a universe of microscopic organisms and within each living cell is the fingerprint of God. One day I looked to the sky and saw an eagle fly on by. The eagle whose name was Jeff looked at me then landed on my shoulder and gave me a gift. Now the gift this kind eagle gave me was one of a kind, you see it was the gift of friendship and then he was gone in the blink of an eye. I saw an egg sitting in some straw and when I picked it up it began to hatch right before my very eyes. Then to my amazement a blue, orange, and red butterfly emerged right before my eyes. I watched with wide wonder as the butterfly grew and grew as big as a house. The butterfly whose name was Frank invited me to hop on for a ride. Then we flew off into the clouds to view all the carnival rides. Soon it was time to go home and when we landed a purple and green snow turtle gave me a dream.

CHAT GPT RESPONSE

What a colorful and imaginative story! It has a surreal, dreamlike quality where the gifts of nature take on magical forms, each with its own personality and significance. The eagle named Jeff offers the rare and profound gift of friendship, while Frank the butterfly takes you on an incredible journey, showing how even the most delicate creatures can carry us to new adventures. The snow turtle delivering a dream adds a mysterious and whimsical ending, like a gentle reminder that some experiences, while fleeting, leave lasting impressions.

It feels like this story could be a parable, where each of these characters symbolizes deeper spiritual or emotional truths. What inspired you to write it?

Here is an illustration of your whimsical story! It brings to life the eagle named Jeff, the giant butterfly, and the peaceful snow turtle in a vibrant, dreamlike scene. Let me know what you think!

FROM DARKNESS INTO LIGHT At some point in its life a caterpillar begins to spin a cocoon suspended from a branch and little by little total darkness sets in. Now trapped in its prison shell life it would seem has become a living hell. Then to make matters worse the caterpillar liquefies and the molecule structure of the caterpillar is re-structured into a beautiful butterfly.

And then the light returns and the butterfly is set free. In our Christian walk we too are sometimes meant to walk through the darkness so we can better appreciate the light.

Psalms 23 Ya though I walk through the Valley of the Shadow of Death I shall fear no evil for thou are with me. As we walk through the Valley of the Shadow of Death we are not in darkness because our Lord and Savior Christ Yeshua is lighting the Way, for He is the Light of the world and he who follows Him shall not walk in darkness but have the light of life and life eternal John 8:12 Amen

CHAT GPT RESPONSE 0CT 2024

Your reflection, From Darkness Into Light, beautifully captures the transformative journey of faith through the metaphor of the caterpillar becoming a butterfly. The darkness the caterpillar experiences in its cocoon, a seeming prison, mirrors the times in our lives when we too face trials and challenges. Just as the caterpillar is restructured into a butterfly, emerging in radiant beauty and freedom, so too are we, as Christians, refined through hardship, emerging into the light of Christ's love and grace.

Your connection to Psalms 23 and John 8:12 further illuminates this truth: even in the darkest valleys, we are never alone. Christ, the Light of the World, guides us through every shadow, ensuring that no darkness can overcome us. This reflection

reminds us that through our own "cocoons" of struggle, God's light is always there to lead us to a place of transformation, freedom, and eternal life.

John 11:25 Yeshua said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in Me will live, even though they die;

Gold Digger

By What If?

Once, there lived a young man named David who longed for adventure. After years of city life and routine, he decided to escape to the hills for a weekend camping trip. Packing his gear, he set off to find a place of peace and solitude, hoping the fresh mountain air and quiet would help him rediscover a sense of purpose.

David found the perfect spot—a clearing nestled by a stream, surrounded by towering pines. He set up his tent, built a small fire, and settled in to enjoy the beauty of nature. Just as the sun dipped behind the hills, he heard the crunch of footsteps on the forest floor. Alarmed, he turned, expecting an animal, but instead saw an old man approaching with a weathered face and a kind, almost mischievous smile.

“Don’t be afraid,” the old man said, raising his hands. “I mean you no harm.”

David relaxed slightly but remained cautious. “Who are you?” he asked.

“Just an old soul who’s wandered these hills for years,” the man replied. “But my time here is nearly up, and I have something to share with you—a gift.”

David raised an eyebrow. “What kind of gift?”

The old man leaned closer, his voice dropping to a whisper. “A gold mine.”

David’s heart raced. “A gold mine? Out here?”

The old man nodded. “About two miles up the hill. It’s untouched, and it’s yours if you want it.”

“Why would you give it to me?”

“Because I can’t take it with me,” the old man said, a trace of sadness in his eyes. “But there’s one condition: You must dig for the gold alone, and you must tell no one. If you bring anyone else to the mine, it will collapse, and the gold will be lost forever.”

David hesitated, the old man’s words both tempting and unsettling. But greed tugged at his heart. He shook the old man’s hand. “Deal.”

The old man handed David a map, then turned to leave. “Wait!” David called after him. “What’s your name?”

The old man paused, a strange glint in his eye. “You’ll know soon enough,” he said, disappearing into the forest.

From that day, David became obsessed. Every weekend, he hiked to the secret mine, following the old man's map. At first, the gold came in small nuggets—a handful here, a handful there. It wasn't much, but it was enough to keep him coming back.

As the years passed, his life changed. He abandoned his career, distanced himself from friends and family, and eventually moved to a small cabin near the mine. His world shrank to the size of his shovel and pickaxe.

Then, one day—thirty-five years after he first met the old man—David struck the motherlode. A cavern of pure gold glittered before him, more wealth than he could have imagined. Trembling with excitement, he began to gather the treasure.

As he climbed out of the mine with his first load, he slipped on loose gravel. His head struck a sharp rock, and everything went black.

David awoke to find himself standing beside his own lifeless body. A figure emerged from the shadows—the old man. But he was no longer frail or kind. His eyes burned like coals, and a sinister smile spread across his face.

"Who are you?" David whispered.

The old man laughed. "I told you we'd meet again. I am Lucifer, and you've been digging your own grave for thirty-five years."

David's spirit trembled. "What do you mean?"

"You wasted your life chasing gold," Lucifer said. "You could have used your time to help others, to love, to serve. Instead, you chose greed. And now, your soul belongs to me."

David fell to his knees, sobbing. "But I didn't know…"

Lucifer sneered. "The truth was always in front of you. You ignored it."

In the distance, David heard another voice—a voice full of love and sorrow.

"David," He called, "I am Yeshua the Resurrection and the Life. Your mother and father are standing by My side crying "

David turned, but Lucifer's grip tightened. "It's too late for him," he hissed.

The story ends with a question for the reader: *What treasure are you digging for in life?*

Matthew 16:25-26 For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for My sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, but loses his soul? Or what will a man give *as* an exchange for his soul?

HOPE IN A BOTTLE JLUASDI

I was walking along a sandy beach one October cloudy day when suddenly I noticed a blue and red bottle floating my way, I picked it up and opened it right away, the message I read filled me with such hope that cloudy fall day. The message was simple and very plane to see, it actually brought tears to my eyes as I stood by an old oak tree. The message read

"Jesus loves you and so do I Love Pastor Shon"

I looked out to sea and thought about Pastor Shon, he must have been a really great man to write a message with such kindness and love. Then I paused to give God thanks and praise and then me and my dog Sunny waked back home on that October cloudy fall day... John 14:27

CHAT GPT RESPONSE OCT 2024

This is beautiful—a gentle reminder of how love and faith can reach us in unexpected ways, even on cloudy days. The way you brought Pastor Shon into the story, sending out a message of love and encouragement, truly captures the spirit of compassion he must have had. And the bond between you and Sunny walking back home brings warmth to this serene scene.

John 14:27 fits perfectly here: “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” This verse paired with the message in the bottle offers a sense of peace, showing that even in cloudy moments, God’s love is a constant, shining light.

JLUASDI

WISH.....

I wish I had a dream. for if God in His awesome wisdom, power, and love gave me a real dream I would place it in my pocket and keep it for a while and with the passing of time I would hold on to it tightly.

Then one day in the twinkling of an eye with the passing of time my special dream would become reality right before my eyes. And there standing by my side would be my best friend Sunny and my other true friend who loves me with all her heart and from that day on we would never be apart.

I dream of a time when all of this sorrow, sadness, heartache, and pain would gently wash away, a time when the lion lay with the lamb, a time of peace, love and joy, a time of renewed strength and vitality. It would be a time of free spirit surrounded by those I love and who love me back. A time of healing and renewal of mind, body, and soul. A dream to have that brings real Hope, Comfort, and Joy through my Faith, Hope, and Love in Christ our Lord...Amen John 14:27

LIVING WATER

I seek, but where? I look but I cannot see, I'm alive in this fleshly body but at the same time I'm spiritually dead. I may be rich in material wealth but I'm spiritually bankrupt,

I think I'm someone but in the eyes of God I'm lost. I am the prodigal son drifting on the run with these spiritually dead dry bones. I thirst for the Living Waters of God to nourish and quench my weary soul, and where can I get this Living Water so I'll never thirst again? I need to ask the woman by the well for she can point the way to the Way where I can receive the Living Waters of God,

"O Lord please provide me with Your Living Waters so I can be reborn of the Spirit of God and begin living a righteous life for Your glory...Amen"

Yeshua Talks with a Samaritan Woman 4 Now Yeshua learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was gaining and baptizing more disciples than John— 2 although in fact it was not Jesus who baptized, but his disciples. 3 So he left Judea and went back once more to Galilee. 4 Now he had to go through Samaria. 5 So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 6 Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

7 When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Yeshua said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" 8 (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) 9 The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.

[a]) 10 Yeshua answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." 11 "Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? 12 Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?"

13 Yeshua answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

15 The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water so that I won’t get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.” 16 He told her, “Go, call your husband and come back.” 17 “I have no husband,” she replied. Yeshua said to her, “You are right when you say you have no husband. 18 The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true.”

19 “Sir,” the woman said, “I can see that you are a prophet. 20 Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.”

21 “Woman,” Yeshua replied, “believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. 22 You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. 23 Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. 24 God is spirit, and His worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.” 25 The woman said, “I know that Messiah” (called Christ) “is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.” 26 Then Yeshua declared, “I, the one speaking to you—I am he.”

I SEE GOD EVERYWHERE

I saw a rainbow and wondered why? I so a snowflake dance on the tip of a butterfly's wing. I saw a rain drop on a rose peddle and then a ladybug flew on by. I so the fingerprint of God in all of these things, then I looked at me and saw a universe of infinite possibilities for within our soul is the image of God and within our own imagination is the creative nature of God and within our capacity to understand forgive and have compassion and kindness through the power of love we draw closer to our creator...Amen Psalms 91

GHAT GPT RESPONSE What a beautiful and poetic reflection! Your words capture the awe and wonder of God's creation, connecting it to the infinite potential and divine image within us. Just like the rainbow, the snowflake, and the ladybug, we too are touched by God's intricate design and filled with boundless possibilities. It's a powerful reminder that through love, compassion, and forgiveness, we draw closer to our Creator.

Psalms 91 speaks of God's protection and refuge, perfectly aligning with your meditation on His presence in the world around us and within our souls:

"He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, 'He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.'" (Psalm 91:1-2)

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you, not as the world gives do I give to you, let not your heart by troubled neither let it be afraid…

SEEDS OF FAITH

A man planted a seed that took many years to start growing. People began thinking that planting it was a complete waste of time. Then one day the little seed sprouted and began growing and soon it began to bear fruit for the glory of God. The seed was the Good News of Christ Yeshua risen and the eternal hope of salvation through a meaningful relationship with Him. You see this seed was not planted in the earth, it was planted in someone's heart that at the time was made of stone, but over time the little seed of faith was able to break through stone and began growing and bearing spiritual fruit for the glory of God...Amen John 3:16

CHATE GPT 193 Nov 2024

Amen! What a powerful parable of transformation and the unstoppable nature of God's Word. The Good News of Christ Yeshua, when planted in even the hardest of hearts, has the power to break through anything that may seem unyielding or impossible. Just as a seed can push through stone to reach the light, the message of Christ's love and salvation can pierce through a heart that was once closed off, hardened by life, pain, or doubt.

This story echoes Ezekiel 36:26: *"I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh."* In His perfect timing, God softens and reshapes hearts to receive the seed of faith. Over time, that faith grows, bears fruit, and becomes a living testimony of His grace and power. Through that transformation, the world can see His glory. What a beautiful reminder to never give up on sowing seeds of love, faith, and truth, trusting God to bring forth the harvest!

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if anyone be in Christ, they are a new creation: old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

1 Corinthians 3:6-9 [6] I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. [7] So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. [8] The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor. [9] For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building.

The Sparrow and the Eagle

One day, the Sparrow said to the Eagle, "I wish I were like you—strong, fearless, and a symbol of American strength and power."

The Eagle looked at the Sparrow with a kind smile and replied, "And I wish I could be more like you. Eagles often fly alone, high above the clouds in search of prey. It can be lonely up there. Don't underestimate yourself, little Sparrow. You may be small, but it takes great courage to stand up to larger birds to protect your young. I've seen how fiercely sparrows defend their nests—you are braver than you think."

The Sparrow had never thought of himself that way. To him, his small size seemed like a weakness. But that day, both the Sparrow and the Eagle realized something profound: each had been given unique strengths and gifts by God, designed for a purpose.

In the same way, we are reminded not to compare ourselves to others. Instead, we should focus on living out the purpose God has given us, using our gifts to serve and glorify Him. Just as the Sparrow and the Eagle found strength in their design, we can trust that God has a plan for each of us.

Proverbs 3:5-8
"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight."

Let us live with faith, courage, and purpose, trusting in God to guide us. Amen.

John 14:27

Revelation 5:5 Then one of the [twenty-four] elders said to me, “Stop weeping! Look closely, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome *and* conquered! He can open the scroll and [break] its seven seals.”

Who Am I?

Who am I, standing here by this tree,
Watching a world spin out of control?
Oh, Abba Father, help me please—
Will I ever find real peace?
And—OUCH!!!— I think I was just stung by a bee.

Who am I, walking this path of highs and lows,
Through valleys, struggles, and sorrows so deep?
Who am I, drenched by the pouring rain,
Worn down by life's endless pain?

Who am I, with thoughts so unlike others,
Wondering why I think as I do?
If everyone thought exactly the same,
There'd be no me, no you—no name.
Then what, Lord, would we do?

Who am I, just sitting here by a tree,
Watching a sunrise over the sea?
Who am I, longing to be free—
Can a man like me ever find peace?

Oh Lord, please tell me who I am;
I just want to do Your will,
To walk Your path, to know Your plan,
And join You in Heaven someday…
Amen.

Chat GPT, Your words paint a deeply reflective and spiritual journey—one that acknowledges both the beauty and the struggles of life, revealing a soul that longs for understanding, purpose, and peace. You're seeking to understand your unique place in this world, grappling with both the mystery of existence and the pain that often comes with it, yet finding strength in your faith, in the love of God, and in the belief that there's something greater beyond this life.

In the image of sitting by a tree, gazing out at a sunrise over the sea, there's a sense of humble wonder—a desire to be free from the hardships that weigh on you. Your questions show a soul that is sensitive to the world's suffering but also yearning to rise above it, hoping to fulfill a divine purpose and find peace in the Lord's presence. You're like a seeker, a servant of God, reaching out for His guidance so that you may someday rest with Him in heaven.

These thoughts—about peace, purpose, individuality, and a longing for God—reveal a heart ready to surrender to the Creator, one who walks through life's storms with hope that, in doing His will, you will be embraced by His love.

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you, not as the world gives do I give to you, let not your heart be troubled neither let it be afraid… JLUASDI

The Roller Coaster of Life

One day, I decided to visit an amusement park by the seashore. As I wandered through the park, something caught my eye—a brand-new roller coaster gleaming in the afternoon sun.

I hesitated. Heights have always made me nervous, and I was about to walk away when I felt a gentle tap on my shoulder. Turning around, I saw a kind man with a radiant smile.

He looked at me warmly and said, *"Fear not, for I am with you. I will never leave you nor forsake you. Now, let's ride this roller coaster together, okay?"*

There was something extraordinary about Him—something beyond words. When I looked into His eyes, I saw the universe itself reflected in their twinkling light. Tears welled up in my own eyes as I realized who this kind man was.

With trembling hands, I whispered, *"Yes, Lord, I'm ready to ride this roller coaster with You."*

The next moment, I found myself sitting beside the Lord on the roller coaster. The wheels began to move, slowly at first, as we climbed higher and higher, straight up into the sky. From the top, the view was breathtaking. I could see the Earth spinning far below, and then, suddenly, the ride plunged downward.

As the coaster twisted and turned, I saw the story of my life flash before my eyes—the highs and the lows, the joys and the sorrows, the peaks of triumph and the valleys of pain. I realized this roller coaster was a metaphor for my life, and through it all, sitting faithfully by my side, was the Lord.

He was showing me a profound truth: life on this Earth is like a roller coaster. It's filled with heartache, suffering, and unexpected turns. Yet, it's also a journey of discovery, joy, and love, filled with peace and endless possibilities when lived in a relationship with Him.

As the ride came to a stop, I understood that no matter how steep the climbs or how deep the descents, the Lord had always been with me. Guiding, comforting, and strengthening me through every twist and turn.

He gently reminded me of His words:

"In this world, you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world." — John 16:33

With tears in my eyes and a heart full of peace, I thanked Him for the ride of a lifetime—the ride of life itself.

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct your paths…

"The Greatest Gift" by Chaplain Paul 193

One day, as I was waiting in line at the grocery store, a kind, old man approached me and handed me a small, wrapped box. He said, “This is the greatest gift. But don’t open it unless you feel truly down and hopeless.” Then, without another word, he turned and walked away.

The whole experience felt strange, to say the least. I went home and set the gift on a shelf, quickly forgetting about it in the days that followed. But life took a dark turn not long after. First, I lost my job, then, six months later, my wife and I got divorced. As if that wasn’t enough, shortly afterward, I was diagnosed with diabetes. Each blow seemed to hit harder, and I felt myself slipping into a deep depression.

One evening, while sitting alone, head in hands, I remembered the old man’s gift. I pulled it down from the shelf and set it on the table in front of me. A strange hope welled up inside. What could be in this little box? Perhaps a check for a million dollars? Or a rare, valuable coin? Maybe some old stock worth a small fortune?

I slowly unwrapped the box, anticipation growing. But when I opened it, there was no money or treasure inside. Instead, it held a small pocket Bible, a bookmark on John 3:16, three scripture coins, and a simple note that read:

“Jesus Loves You, and So Do I. Love, Pastor Shon.”

In that moment, peace came over me. I felt a profound reminder that I was not alone and that love and hope were still very much alive, even in the darkest of times. I looked down at the bookmark and read John 14:27:

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

In a world where we often look for answers in all the wrong places, this small gift held the greatest treasure of all—a reminder of God's unyielding love and the peace that can only be found in Him.

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This story beautifully captures how hope and faith can arrive when we least expect them. The simplicity of the gift—a Bible, scripture coins, and a note—reminds us that sometimes the greatest treasures aren't in wealth or worldly possessions but in finding peace and connection with God. The "greatest gift" wasn't anything material; it was a tangible reminder of God's love and a spark of hope in the middle of despair.

It also highlights the power of small, seemingly random acts of kindness. Pastor Shon's gesture shows how deeply meaningful it can be when someone goes out of their way to share love, even with a stranger. Through the old man's simple gift, a path to spiritual healing opens for the main character just when he's at his lowest. It's a reminder that sometimes what we need most isn't a change in circumstance but a change in perspective—a re-centering on God's promises and His unfailing love.

It's a story of faith and resilience, showing how even in dark times, God's light and the kindness of others can guide us back to hope.


JOHN
3:16
BIBLE