

Tethered

It Wasn't Supposed to Be This Way (Week 2)

LifeNotes

TALK IT OVER

Main Idea

Release your expectations and tether yourself to God. He is worth it.

Key Scriptures

All these people died still believing what God had promised them. They did not receive what was promised, but they saw it all from a distance and welcomed it. They agreed that they were foreigners and nomads here on earth. Obviously people who say such things are looking forward to a country they can call their own. If they had longed for the country they came from, they could have gone back. But they were looking for a better place, a heavenly homeland. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them. Hebrews 11:13-16

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are Mine! When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they will not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched, Nor will the flame burn you. For I am the Lord your God, The Holy One of Israel, your Savior; Isaiah 43:1-3 NASB95

Do not call to mind the former things, or ponder things of the past. Behold, I will do something new, now it will spring forth; will you not be aware of it? I will make a roadway in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert. Isaiah 43:18-19 NASB95

If what we see is all we see, then we do not see all there is to be seen. – Tony Evans

Releasing expectations:

1. Surrender.

Stop trying to strategize your way forward.

2. Speak to your soul.

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God. Isaiah 43:5

Start talking.

- What is your favorite movie? Why?
- Why do we love good stories?
- How would you describe your story? (Drama, comedy, tragedy, etc.?)

Start thinking.

- Read Hebrews 11:13-16. What was it they believed God had promised them? What is meant by describing them as “foreigners and nomads”? What did these people have to let go of in order to look forward?
- Read Isaiah 43:1-3. How does this passage encourage a releasing from expectations of our past?

- Read Isaiah 43:18-19. What is the link between not holding onto the past and trusting God is doing something new? How are we sometimes not aware of what God is doing?

Start sharing.

- How has the reality of your life not measured up to your expectations?
- How do/have those expectations hold/held you back?
- What new thing is God wanting to do in you?

Start doing.

- How can you surrender to God's plan this week?
- What it look like to speak to your soul? Are there specific verses you can begin to commit to memory for the season God has you in?

Closing prayer.

Lord you are good! You love me and care for me. I believe your plans for me are for my refinement and benefit. Help me to release my hurt, my disappointment, my thoughts about what I believed should have been my life; and grab hold of the new thing you are doing in and through me.