

08-25-22

Here's Hope

By Rev. Jerry Rea

Lord Let Me Be Wind

Who you are and what you are about may not be about you at all. Your assignment from God may be to benefit someone else. It may be your job to lift *them* up.

I often hear someone ask the question, "Why is this happening to me?" Or, we say "What is God doing in my life?" Another way we say it is "What does this mean?" Usually we are thinking of our own lives. I think that's normal, so don't beat yourself up for that. Here's another perspective. What you are going through may not be for you, but for someone else. I've often been inspired as I look at another's struggle and the brave way they've handled it. I have friends who help in our church not because they want me to succeed, but because they see their service to God is to help me. Let me say that again. In reality, they are not serving me, they are serving God. They are really not helping me; they do what they do to bring honor to God and His work.

Here is an example. A devoted mom wants to help her kids. She prays for them and serves them because she loves them. Her goal is to lift them up. She rejoices when they succeed. Their success is in some ways her own. If those children reach a place of prosperity or success and do not appreciate the fact that they did not get there by themselves, they have missed the wind beneath their wings. Very few people get to a place of success by themselves. There is usually a team of folks who help along the way. The best coaches see their role as to make their players great. The best music ministers at church help the message to be taught and preached by the way they do their music. A parent, who has taught their little athlete well, rejoices when he or she score, even though the athlete rarely gives the parent the credit that truly belongs there.

It may be your job as a Christian to help someone else. Is that okay? Doesn't that need to be okay? The apostle Paul did some wonderful things with his life, but he didn't do them by himself. There are always companions listed in the New Testament. It is always Paul and Barnabas, or Paul and Timothy, or Paul and Demas. Rarely does he fail to acknowledge their help. He understands, though, that they do not do it because they like him; they do it because they serve Jesus.

Let me say it one more time. Your job may be to push someone else up. You may have the role of lifting someone up. You may be his or her wind. It may be because of you that others reach their goals, and you may be left feeling like you were not able to reach yours. That may just be God's plan for your life.

Sometimes when we discover His plan for our lives, we don't like it. Perhaps, we don't want it. There is true happiness and joy in our hearts when we discover that for which we were

designed. You may not be designed to be a football player; your task may be to make others football players. You may be tasked with the delivery of the gospel sermon at church. Your role may be a bit more mundane. It may fall your role to keep the nursery, while someone else gets all the "Amen's."

Don't forget this. It's an awesome thing to be someone's "wind."

I love you,
Jerry Rea