

Dear Friends,

"The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet." --Frederick Buechner

God is actively pursuing the redemption of His creation. He wants to bring us healing. And the really cool thing is that He does it, in part, through *you and me*. It would be arrogant of us to assume we are the *only* means through which He works, but we are certainly an important part of the equation. When God works in our lives, He invites us (never forces us) to go in directions that will be good for us and His Kingdom. And that inevitably means we arrive in places that might seem a little uncomfortable, places we'd rather not be. But perhaps it is at that exact location that someone is waiting for us. Waiting for our smile, our support, our encouragement. Waiting for our guidance and wisdom. Or, perhaps we arrive at an intersection where we are the one in need of smiles, support, encouragement, guidance and wisdom, and someone else is waiting to help us. We may never understand why we are taken to certain places in our lives; but if we can *trust* that God is good - *always* - then maybe we can be willing to sit awhile in discomfort and wait for God to work.

Now I am *not* saying that God has called you to places like cancer, seizures, depression, divorce, unemployment, loneliness, and grief. I don't believe God causes these things, or wants these things for us. What I do believe is that He works *through* them to bring good; he redeems them *somehow*. If you are in one of those scary places hold on, because I believe God will cause you to intersect in ways and places that will allow Him to redeem whatever you are going through. Look for the intersections in your life. The place where your life comes together with someone else's in significant ways. These are the places God has invited you to go. And, if you are there, you have accepted God's invitation. Congratulations! It takes courage to go somewhere unknown. But that is the life of faith, being willing to go where we cannot see, trusting that God is already there waiting for us. May your life be filled with meaningful, life-changing intersections. We'll see you in church!

Pastor Kara

