

Life Interrupted

by Christine Wentzel

As I gaze into the face of my 23-week old great-grandniece, my spine tingles with knowledge of witnessing a miracle. Every part of her I can see is a vision of miniature perfection. As soft chimes go off, a nurse instructs the startled mommy not to stroke her little baby because she thinks she is still in the womb and is not used to being touched. So as mommy gently speaks to her little one in soothing tones and you can see her jumpy vital signs settling down.



I stand at a distance watching this tender moment. Soon my eyes drift to all the other tiny children waiting to be strong enough to go home. Unbidden thoughts rise to wonder about all those other babies who don't even make it this far because of intentional interruption. If only those women debating that fateful decision could be here now.

For them, both believers and unbelievers alike, the common denominator in their plight is fear. Satan uses one of his easiest tricks to crowd a woman's mind with self-absorbed, fearful scenarios of her pregnancy, "I can't face this!", and motherhood, "What will I do?"

Anyone focused on his lies of hopelessness will find the justification they think they need to forever change their circumstance. Unless, that is, a friend of Christ steps forward and interrupts her life in a God-loving way and asks her, "What do you fear?" and assures her, "I will help!"

We can let her know we relate to fear. We can also relate to how a loving and merciful Father kept His promise and helped us conquer that fear of hopelessness.

The LORD'S lovingkindness indeed never cease, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness. "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I have hope in Him." Lamentations 3:22-24 (NASB)

We can let her know or remind her about the One who loves her with an everlasting love intentionally created her and her child.

"Your hands shaped me and made me...Did you not...clothe me with skin and flesh and knit me together with bones and sinews? You gave me life and showed me kindness, and in your providence watched over my spirit. Job 10:8, 10, 11-12
We can let her know that their God-gifted lives have purpose.

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart;...For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Jeremiah 1:5, 29:11

And in all situations with her we can rest in the peace that surpasses all understanding that our faithful Shepherd is still in control: "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18



Season: Post Christmas/Epiphany

Video: 22. Rejoice in the Lord...always?

Devotions: 3. Just Pay Attention
194. Remembering our Baptisms

Prayer: 6. Dear Giver of Life, we come to you in thankfulness for allowing...

Super Girl: 6. Pierce was the most beautiful baby I ever laid eyes on...

Scripture References: Psalm 78:38; Psalm 103:10; Jeremiah 3:12; Jeremiah 30:11; Malachi 3:6; Job 9:22; Job 10:3; Job 13:19; Job 30:23; Psalm 33:15; Psalm 100:3; Psalm 119:73; Psalm 138:8; Psalm 139:15, 16

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