



A Story with Life in It.

Look here, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we are going to a certain town and will stay there a year. We will do business there and make a profit.” How do you know what your life will be like tomorrow? Your life is like the morning fog—it’s here a little while, then it’s gone. What you ought to say is, “If the Lord wants us to, we will live and do this or that.” Otherwise you are boasting about your own pretentious plans, and all such boasting is evil.

James 4:13-16 (NLT)

Pressed, having procrastinated for weeks, I was up before dawn. My 8th grade English teacher was expecting a short story. I stared out the window seeking inspiration. Noticing the dark silhouettes brightening I decided to write about myself experiencing the awakening day. I painted a pleasant scene but the story? Pollyanna, sappy... BORING! I

failed to capture the unfolding mystery of a new day, full of unknowns, surprises, and twists... the adventure. There was no life in my story... my grade proved it!

How easy it is for us to paint our lives as I did that morning! We make plans... there's a way we expect (want!) our days to go... and, typically, that's just how they do go. We set a pleasant scene with us at the center, good! But is there life in it, true life? Suddenly something unplanned happens. We become anxious, stressed... we worry and complain, "That's not the way it was supposed to go!"

Many days (and years) of my life have been spoiled because of my poor reaction to life's surprises; by my life not going to plan, and I've had it comparatively easy so far. Many I know have suffered life changing tragedies... It's hard for me to grasp their pain and heartache. Life can be rough. Who hasn't asked, "Why God?"

"How can we understand the road we travel? It is the Lord who directs our steps." (Proverbs 20:24)

Surprise! Regardless of whether you've accepted it, you're on the road and it's an adventure. What's coming next? How will you respond?

"We can make our plans, but the Lord determines our steps." (Proverbs 16:9)

Catching the theme? Apparently, it's our sovereign Lord who directs

our steps. He allows or causes the unplanned, good and not so good, to disrupt our lives. Makes me ask more vehemently, "Why God?!"

"The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life." Jesus Christ (John 10:10)

A friend shared, "True life is lived on the edge of uncertainty." Could Jesus' promised "*rich and satisfying life*" only be found by living on the edge of uncertainty? Amid a story of adventure?

Reflect: How do I respond when something unexpected happens?

A family was staying at a cozy mountain lodge, a prominent peak visible from the lobby. The dad asked his boys if they'd like to climb it, stating it would be a difficult all-day trek with some risk of danger. One stayed back, the other went with dad. Around dinner time the hikers stumbled in. Though exhausted, their faces beamed and echoes of their adventure reverberated throughout the rest of their vacation. The other son's story? One of regret. Which story had more life in it? Which would you rather hear?

We're drawn to such stories and adventures that are dramatic, risky, and fraught with uncertainty but end well – they have life in them! Notice the essential elements of an adventure: a commoner fights for a great cause in a dangerous environment, a formidable enemy pursues him and would be his doom if not for his intimate allies, perseverance, grit, determination, and in the most epic stories, divine

union. Victorious, his transformed life testifies, encouraging everybody around him.

Surprise! You're the commoner in your life's adventure! Have you taken up your great cause? Surrounded yourself with intimate allies? Committed to persevere? United your life to Jesus so he can transform you through it? Joined in his victory to be a witness to it?

*Consider: **Living my life as an adventure will change my response to life's surprises.***

Why does James bring up boasting? Isn't it just like us to believe our plan for our life is better than God's? Of course, we paint ourselves the hero... but we're not! Though we're all living out individual adventures, we're part of a greater adventure story. Our stories are witnesses to an epic adventure story about Jesus. Why does God thrust us into uncertainty? So we learn to boast in Jesus alone – *"boasting about your own pretentious plans... is evil."*

*Imagine: **My Mission, a great cause, glorifying Jesus.***

What's a story lacking a great cause? Pollyanna, sappy... BORING! There's no life in it. Sadly, most remain stuck, focused on their own plans, themselves at the center, attempting to live devoid of their great cause, their Mission. Safe, a pretty scene? It becomes a story of regret... who wants to hear it?

Release your adventure by opening yourself to receive your Mission. What could glorify Jesus more than you on Mission with him; you doing what he's created you for and invested in you to do? Know your Mission and rewrite the adventure of your life. Make it...

A Story with Life in It!

Go off the grid and ask these questions:

Coach's Questions

- Have I allowed the "thief" to hijack my reactions to life's surprises? How might my reactions change because I view my life's adventure as a witness to Jesus' epic adventure story?
- How am I glorifying Jesus as I navigate life's uncertainties?
- Don't know my great cause, my Mission? [Start here!](#)

Spirit Talk

Post this where you will see it regularly.

My Life's Adventure Makes Me Boast About Jesus!

"Don't brag about tomorrow, since you don't know what the day will bring."

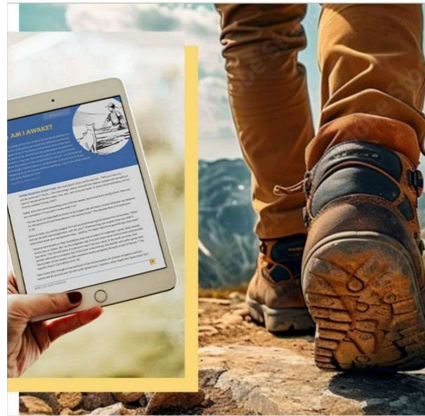
Proverbs 27:1 (NLT)



Brand New!

Don't know your Mission?

Our "*Mobilize Your Mission Self-Guided Workshop*" will guide you to it.



This focused workshop progresses down a proven path where you'll receive your Mission (the work God has you here to do) and the passion filled story that powers it. Along the way, discover the four life transforming Foundations of Mission and find yourself challenged to enter the Adventure of Your Life.

1. **Create deeper intimacy with God**—His greatest desire for you
2. **Find the power of your life's Mission**—inspired work, aligned life, direction
3. **Tap into the passion of your life's story**—why you are perfect for your Mission
4. **Create a plan to Mobilize Your Mission**—this will change your life!

[Start MYM Workshop for Free!](#)

Ready for a deeper dive?

Engage the Advisor Guided, **Reach New Peaks Workshop**. It will change your life. Guaranteed. Schedule a free consultation on how to start the process:

“

“If one is seeking direction in life and looking forward to new adventures, **this workshop is the perfect trail map** to get you to your destination!”

~ DAN B.
Life Mission: *Shaping radical existence in the everyday*



[Mission Curve Process—Guaranteed](#)

Adventuring with God

Blog Posts



Bold, Together

I've been stewing. Ever since reading Psalm 27 about a week ago, the last verse has been tumbling over and over in... [Keep reading](#)

[View All Blogs](#)



Copyright © 2025 Mission Curve Advisors, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you opted in via our website.

Our mailing address is:

Mission Curve Advisors
18160 Cottonwood Rd PMB 440
Bend, OR 97707-9317

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

