



SONrise September-October 2000
EMMAUS
NEWSLETTER
... Strengthening the Local Church

From Your Community Lay Director:

Anybody been frustrated this week? Did you have your day planned and everything get changed?? Have you ever had one of those weeks or months that was the pits? Our preacher asked those same questions one Sunday morning and instantly got my attention.

He talked about how David was frustrated because he had all those plans to build the temple - but God wouldn't let him. Instead Solomon, his son, got to build it. This brought to my mind how David, after he slew Goliath and then fought in Saul's army, probably never dreamed that the fame from his victories would make Saul jealous, and cause David to have to flee from Saul for over 10 years! Wouldn't that be frustrating?

Then look at Joseph - I'm certain Joseph did not plan to be sold as a slave, accused of attempted rape, and end up in jail. Now that is frustration!

And these are the good guys! Back to my pastor's sermon - He pointed out, of course, that God is in control. I'm thinking - right! I know that in my head, BUT - that's not so easy to apply when everything around you (at home - or work - or whatever your situation) is not going according to plan. Then he really started meddling as he went on to say, **"IF YOU ARE PLUGGED INTO GOD'S PLAN, IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT PART YOU PLAY."**

Do you think your role should have more "importance"? Or, has your role changed to a more difficult one? Have you felt God calling you to something way out of your comfort zone? Is this season of your life especially tough? Is the part you are playing now, not one you would have chosen? I'm sure Jesus' list of top ten fun things to do did not include leaving a place like heaven, having no home, being spit upon, despised, rejected, crowned with thorns, crucified on a cross....

Are you plugged in?? In Jeremiah 29:11, God promises: ***"For I know the plans I have for you^{1/4}. Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future."*** God's plans for us are perfect - let us not be frustrated!! Let's stay plugged in and play our parts to God's Glory!!

De Colores!

Marty Sutherland

