



My daughters call me Friday and want to go on a hike. They want to walk to "The Walls of Jericho" (To see more info follow this link...[The Walls of Jericho in Jackson County, Alabama, is being called "The Grand Canyon of the South."](#)) We get started late for such a long hike, but off we go. About an hour into our walk we realize we started much too late to reach the site before darkness would overtake us. We continue walking but our pace begins to slow, until we meet a couple of fellow hikers returning from The Walls. They assure us that we cannot reach our destination in the daylight and encourage us to come back another day.

A little discouraged we regroup and decide to make the best of a beautiful day together in the woods. Again, I am amazed at how wonderful life can be when you decide to enjoy life's detours. Instead of complaining because we failed to reach our destination, we simply enjoyed the time and the place we found ourselves in. Happiness really is a choice.

After my change of attitude, a wonderful thing took place. I began to notice afresh the many wonderful things all around me; things I simply walked right over minutes before, now took on a new beauty. They had not changed; they were just as amazing when I walked past them minutes before, but I had changed.

I decided even if I could not be where I wanted I was going to enjoy the path life had put me on. And just as quickly everything around me began to transform right in front of my eyes (or perhaps I began to change) all I know is this; when I let go of the disappointment, doubts and fears and choose to trust my path to my heavenly guide, everything got better, sweeter and more enjoyable.

Are you discouraged because you cannot travel the road you want? Are you holding on to the pain of disappointments? Do you cling to hurt feelings or grip a grudge? Let the negative go; live your life with faith and courage, knowing that Trust involves letting go and knowing God will catch you. Give it a try, what have you got to lose?

Something to think about:

- I do not ask to walk smooth paths
 - Nor bear an easy load,
 - I pray for strength and fortitude
 - To climb the rock-strewn road.
 - Give me such courage I can scale
 - The hardest peaks alone,
 - And transform every stumbling block
 - Into a stepping-stone.

- It takes guts to leave the ruts.

- Doubt sees the obstacles; faith sees the way.
 - Doubt sees the darkest night; faith sees the day.
 - Doubt dreads to take a step; faith soars on high;
 - Doubt questions, "Who believes?" Faith answers, "I."

- Faith draws the poison from every grief, takes the sting from every loss, and quenches the fire of every pain; and only faith can do it.

- I do not want merely to possess a faith; I want a faith that possesses me.

Your fellow traveler
Rickey Moore

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