



Dear Neighbour,

Life is an adventure and part of the thrill of an adventure is that we never know what may happen next. It's the element of surprise and of the unknown that makes for an adventure. I still have a bookshelf full of childhood adventure stories and don't seem to be able to part with them. It must be the child in me. As we 'mature' we somehow lose our sense of adventure and many adults become 'control addicts' – having tasted of what life can bring we become distrustful of anyone except ourselves. We become controlling with relationships, our homes, money and sometimes even weight becomes a control issue. With clenched fists we hold on to what we have – fearful to relinquish control! Today I have good news for you! You can relax, open your hand and hand over the controls of your life – not to yourself or even another human being...but to God!

Do you know that He is a PREPARED GOD? Nothing takes Him by surprise...nothing happens 'suddenly' for Him... nothing catches Him off guard! He is PREPARED for every eventuality in your life. Read on to be convinced...

Recently, I read in Exodus 14:21 about Moses leading the children of Israel out of Egypt. They were in a hard place: the Egyptian army hot on their heels and a great expanse of water before them. Maybe you are in a hard place today. You don't seem to have anywhere to turn and not too many options before you.

***Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea;  
and the Lord caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night,  
and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided.***

God PREPARED a strong, east wind to blow – all night it blew and in the morning His people woke up and walked out of their predicament on dry ground! During your 'night' of darkness we have a God who never sleeps or slumbers. In fact He is busy making preparations for your deliverance! The day simply revealed what God had done during the night. Rest, wait on Him,

trust Him...He is a creative God full of surprises. Think of all the people who lost sleep that night worrying about their situation, feeling out of control, helpless and sick with worry! Are you one of them?

'Suddenly' my husband was asked to go for an interview and within a week was given a promotion that has turned our life on its head! Were we taken by surprise? Absolutely! Was God taken by surprise? Never! As we pray and wait on the Lord we know that He is making a way for us, because like the children of Israel, we are His children. Does a Father not know how to care for that which belongs to Him?!!!

The word 'PREPARE' means 'to make ready'. Remember the hairy, wild-looking John the Baptist? He was Jesus' cousin and was sent to 'PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD' John 1:2,3 God leaves nothing to chance. He sent John to PREPARE THE HEARTS of the people for repentance. He was such a contrast to the religious leaders of the day. Many heeded his call and their hearts were ready for the coming of Jesus Christ. Have you repented of your sins and is your heart prepared for what God has in store for you?

In the famous 23rd Psalm, we read David's confident words: ***You PREPARE a table before me in the presence of my enemies.***



I have a picture of David sitting at a table having a relaxing, enjoyable meal, PREPARED BY GOD, meanwhile surrounded by adversity on every side. Wow! Have you ever tried eating while you are stressed? All you get is indigestion! God wants us to relax.

My favourite 'Prepared' scripture is to be found in 1 Corinthians 2:9,10

***Eye has not seen, nor ear heard,  
Nor entered into the heart of man  
The things which God has PREPARED for those who love Him.  
But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit.□□***

God has told His children not to worry about eternity – He has PREPARED A PLACE for us – John 14:2. We have a home in heaven. Sadly, God PREPARES FOR EVERYONE but not

## God is Prepared

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everyone receives what God has for them. It is only for those who love Him and have surrendered their life to Jesus Christ.

So relax, dear Neighbour, if you are a child of God today! You may not have seen, heard or comprehended in your mind how God is working behind the scenes. For today, it is enough for you to know that HE IS PREPARED and will show Himself strong on your behalf. Relinquish control and be ready for the adventure of a lifetime because you have a God who has gone before you and PREPARED A WAY FOR YOU. God will make a way where there seems to be no way!

Don't you feel so much better? I do.

x Libby