

In His Hands

By Terrah Brinson, Church of God World Missions, Cleveland, TN

(Terrah is currently serving as the Media Specialist for Church of God World Missions, as well as the event coordinator for retired missionaries.)

Lord, You are my portion and my cup of blessing. You hold my future (Psalm 16:5).

Being born into the Church of God with a father as a minister, not being a Christian was never even a thought. God was in me from the very start. So, once I became an adult and realized that I had no idea who I was or what God had created me to be, I knew I had a problem. I saw that I had become complacent and content with the “comfy” life I had, and really didn’t feel that overwhelming need to be dependent upon God. I thought, “Well, I already have a good job, I own my own home, I have an adorable little dog . . . what else do I need?”



When I looked deeper into my heart, I saw that I wasn’t happy. I felt empty inside. I was already a Christian so what could I possibly be missing? I was missing God. I was missing that deep relationship that we so desperately need to feel complete and whole. I had become lazy and knew I had to do something.

I immediately packed a small bag, my dog, and my Bible and hit the road to Florida. I spent the entire week on the beach with my Bible, talking to God. During that week, I found an amazing God who loved me and wanted only the best for me.

God spoke to me during my desperation. Those days that I was at the beach I watched the waves crash into the shoreline. I noticed how vast the ocean really was. I asked God, “How do the waves know when to stop before over-flooding the whole earth?” I heard God saying to the waves, “You can only go this far.” Why? Because He loves us. He has us in the palm of His hand—protecting us. When I looked at the sand, I saw how many tiny grains were in just one handful and was reminded of the scripture in Psalms that tells us God’s thoughts towards us outweigh the grains of sand. That scripture came to life in me as I looked at the sand.

One day while I was walking on the beach, I found a beautiful conch shell, but when I picked it up, the entire back side of the shell was missing. God showed me how my life was just like that shell. He said my life may sometimes feel like it is broken and torn apart and missing pieces, but with His grace and love, I am made whole and beautiful like the perfect side of the shell.

I discovered during this special week that without that deep relationship with God, we get only through prayer and through reading His Word, we become weak and broken. We become idle and complacent and lose our place in the world. It’s not a good feeling. So many times our lives become too busy and God ends up taking a back seat when He should be the one driving!

With my new-found relationship with God, I now know who I am and I know who God created me to be. That doesn’t mean life is easy now. Bad things will still happen that we will never understand; but with a prayerful relationship with God, He will comfort us through those trials . . . and make us beautiful and whole.

(Papa) Abba, You are in control of all things in this world. Many times we become distracted and forget to talk to You, but we know You are with us . . . loving us. There are so many things that we don’t understand, yet we know our lives are in Your hands. Help us to trust

You and draw closer to You. We cannot make it through this life without Your help, so draw us nearer to You, Lord. Show Yourself to us in these last days. In Your name we pray. Amen.