

The Next Right Thing

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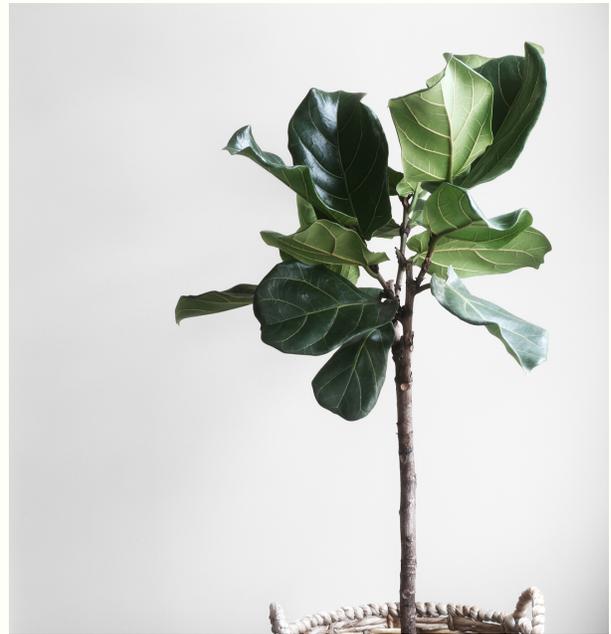
"Just do the next right thing
Take a step, step again
It is all that I can to do
The next right thing
I won't look too far ahead
It's too much for me to take
But break it down to this next breath, this next step
This next choice is one that I can make"

All you girl moms out there know exactly what movie this is from -- Frozen 2. If you don't know what is happening in the movie or what the song is about, I'd invite you to Google it, because *spoilers*.

This song absolutely wrecked me when I watched it in theaters with my daughters and 2 month old son. Every single word resonated deep in my soul, and I sobbed through the entire song. Not just normal sobs, but the type of sobbing that makes your whole body shake, because it was all just too much. My middle daughter, Audrey, was in between cancer treatment cycles. I had already sat by her bedside for close to 200 days, 20 of them while she was on life support, and many of those early days, I truly wondered if she would make it.

Back in the movie theater, the song ended and I slowly gathered my composure; however, those words, "do the next right thing," continued to resonate in me. For the past two years, I have been faced with overwhelming, impossible decisions. Every day, I have learned something new and heart wrenching. The twists and turns of childhood cancer never seemed to stop. Every time I felt like there might be a new normal, there was a new phase of treatment or some new side effects to learn and worry about. Every decision felt too heavy, and there was not always a clear right answer.

Right now, I think life might feel a little like that for a lot of us. The pandemic continues to rage. We don't know what will happen next. Every decision feels heavy, and there is no clear right answer.



When I felt (and continue to feel) the deep unfairness of childhood cancer, my husband pointed me to Job 38:4-7. It has been a bittersweet reminder that God is so much bigger, His ways are not my ways, and that I can trust my God, even and especially when everything feels out of control.

"Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation?
Tell me, if you understand.
Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know!
Who stretched a measuring line across it?
On what were its footings set,
or who laid its cornerstone—
while the morning stars sang together
and all the angels shouted for joy?" (*Job 38:4-7*).

The God who needed no counsel to create all things out of nothing has already written and ordained all my days (and your days) before one of them came to be (see Psalm 139:16). Though He needs no counsel, He graciously offers to be our counselor in times of confusion and pain. We are invited to ask God for wisdom when we lack it (see James 1:5) and we are able to rest in the everlasting arms as we move forward doing the next right thing.



Becca is a fiercely loving wife, mother, and friend. She and her family are members at Redeemer and have taught our church family so much through their faith as they walk with their daughter through childhood cancer.