

# A Word on Wednesday from Pastor Tonia

## "On Our Own" 8/30/23

*My people have committed two crimes:  
They have forsaken Me, the spring of living water.  
And they have dug wells, broken wells which cannot hold water. (Jer 2:13)*

This verse pulls me up short. Makes me want to cry and to cry out to God how sorry I am. To plead for God to change my heart, to turn me around, to help me to seek and to see only Him. This verse describes our sin. Simply put, we have turned from God. We think we can do a better job on our own. And we wonder why we feel anxious, depressed, like we're spinning our wheels. We were created to be in relationship with God, but we decided to do it our own way.

In my favorite hymn, *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*, we hear:

Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
Prone to leave the God I love  
Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it

The songwriter, Robert Robinson, reminds us, when we tend to wander, and we do, we can plead for God to take and seal our hearts to Godself, and He will. We are always in debt to God's grace for His acts of mercy in our lives.

God speaks peace to His people. When we turn to Him, He meets us where we are – on our own – with compassion and consolation. God's salvation is near to those who are in awe of Him. The doubts and fears we face - on our own - are removed as we return to God.

"I can do nothing on my own." St. John writes. We wander. We judge. We trip. We face frustration. We feel alone. We are like sheep on the wrong side of the fence. Doing it on our own is difficult and in the end not what we needed or expected. Oh, we can sing, "I did it my way," but how's the heart? What did we accomplish? For how long did the accomplishment last?

God's desire is for us to turn to Him for strength, for help, for wisdom, for direction. Not because God is a control freak, but because He loves us and wants what is best for us. God cares for us and does not want our wells, our lives, to leak. God's plan is for us to be watertight. God is the spring of living water, we are invited to drink from Him, to fill our water bottles with living water, instead of spending time and energy digging our own well, which is bound to leak.

## **Please pray with me:**

*God of grace, I am tired of living on my own. May Your goodness like a fetter bind my wandering heart to You and tune my heart to sing of Your grace. Lord, turn my heart to You.*

**Amen.**