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Why Are We Turning Around?

By Teresa Hampton

My husband and I recently flew to the West Coast. As we deplaned, the pilot smiled and thanked us for flying with them. For some odd reason, I began to reflect on a previous flight.

It was several years ago. Our departure was from Atlanta and the destination was Colorado Springs. We had flown about half the distance and the plane started banking to the left. My husband commented that the plane was turning around. "Why?" I asked. After a few minutes the pilot said, "Ladies and gentlemen, you may have noticed that we changed our course. We've decided to go back to Atlanta. There is a malfunction with one of our devices. So, just to be on the safe side, we'll go back and get this checked out. We are very sorry for the inconvenience."

It was a little unsettling, but before we landed in Atlanta we were told that we would be changing airplanes. As the wheels gently set down on the tarmac, I looked out the cabin window and saw emergency vehicles with their lights flashing. As we deplaned, my ever-curious husband asked the pilot why we turned around. He smiled and calmly said, "We lost an engine."

One might think that immediately boarding another plane would be nerve-wracking, but there was a sense of calm that came over us. After all, this pilot had things under control before we were even aware of the danger. Our trust in him was now greater than before.

That experience serves as a reminder of some important things:

- We have a greater pilot, our Lord, in whom our trust grows day by day. *But as for me, I trust in You, O LORD; I say, "You are my God"* (Ps. 31:14).
- Before we were even aware of the danger, He had things under control. *He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame* (Eph. 1:4).
- He faithfully guides us through unsettling situations and will continue to do so. *God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear...* (Psalm 46:1-2).

God is our pilot. He is all knowing, all powerful, and ever present as we travel through life. May we always regard Him as the one in control, the one who cares for us, and the one who is deserving of our complete trust and confidence.

Today's Verse: *Commit your way to the Lord, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass* (Ps. 37:5).
Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You (Ps. 56:3).

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