



{ A Wishing on Willows } DEVOTIONAL

“The Lord our God spoke to us in Horeb, saying, ‘You have dwelt long enough at this mountain. Turn and take your journey.’”

-Deuteronomy 1:6-7a

The Israelites spent two years in the desert before God told them to turn and take their journey. They wandered through the wilderness and when it finally came time to take hold of the Promised Land, they hesitated.

They were afraid.

What lay ahead of them was scary and unknown and foreign.

The desert was familiar territory. Safe territory. After two years, they knew how to survive.

But man, God wanted so much more for them than survival.

He wants so much more for us than “good enough”.

Yet how often do we miss out on God’s best for our lives because we’d rather play it safe? How often do we miss out on fully experiencing Him because of our refusal to let go of the familiar?

The Israelites said no to God and spent the next forty years wandering in the desert. An entire generation of people missed out on the Promised Land because they let fear rule the day.

Not so long ago, my husband and I found ourselves in a similar position. God was nudging us toward adoption, but the whole thing felt very daunting and scary. Life was good with our son. We were comfortable. We had a routine. Did we really want to mess that up?

We found ourselves in the same place as those Israelites. The same place as Robin Price in *Wishing on Willows*. Staring at the mountain, afraid to step out of the familiar. Afraid to consider the possibility that perhaps God has a blessing out there for us in those uncharted territories. A blessing that would only be ours if we stepped out in faith.

Lord Jesus, thank you for being a God who is not satisfied with “good enough”. Thank you for being a God who patiently pries us away from what is safe and familiar so we might more fully experience Your best. Following You might be scary and challenging, but it is always worth it.

Are you letting fear get in the way of God’s best for your life?