**Strong Currents**
The waves were extraordinarily strong that day, and I started lagging behind the other girls. It seemed that at each wave, my friends got further out. It seemed as though I was remaining in place.

We had decided to take a girls' trip to the beach that spring. Getting away takes a lot of planning and effort. This one was no different. One of us rented the beach house, one planned the meals, I still had to secure care for my children, and we all had to get time off work. We knew it would be hard but still so worth it.

I knew I needed time with the girls and had great exceptions for the weekend. All of our girl trips were the same...late nights talks, lots of laughing, and I maybe even read Elisabeth Elliott passages to them (that they had already read before).

We would never talk about it, but all of us would wake up early to drink coffee and then find our quiet space by the ocean to hear from the Lord. Every time in those getaways with the Lord, I would find myself pausing introspectively to ask,  "What now, Lord?" or "Where do you want me, Lord?" or "How do you want me to navigate this problem?".

The Lord so faithfully would draw me to passages like the one David wrote in Psalm 37 and faithfully would answer verse by verse.

What do I do now? "Trust me and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture."
But Lord, what about this? "Delight yourself in me, and I will give you the desires of your heart."
What should I do about \_\_\_\_\_\_? "Commit your way to the Lord; trust in me, and I will do this: I will make your righteousness shine like the noonday sun."
I'm worried about \_\_\_\_\_. "Be still before me and wait patiently for me; do not fret when people succeed in their ways."

When the waves were coming in strong, and the waters were getting deeper, like the ones immobilizing me on that trip, I eventually had to stop. I thought no one could hear me because everyone was getting further away. But God heard and provided care for me that I didn't expect. I suddenly noticed a fishing line within arm's distance. Following it back to the shore, I noticed a few fishermen could see what I needed to do to get out of those waves. They quickly helped navigate me to shore, and I found myself safe and sound out of the strong current.

The scriptures are full of relevant passages that help us navigate the strong currents of our lives today. I want to encourage you to plan a getaway with the Lord...the location doesn't matter; it may be in your living room, closet, or balcony. Find it...and then use that time to ask the Lord hard questions and be in daily communication. As you go through your day, look for the "fishing line of provision" because He cares, He hears, and He knows your heart. He is trustworthy with all your most challenging stuff...even when you feel like the currents are so strong you can hardly move! He did with me, and I know He will be with you.

If we have not met, I want you to know that my name is Holly, and I walked into this church 22 years ago with a 5yo daughter and a two-month-old son in tow. This church embraced me, but more importantly, the gospel and what God did in my life changed this ordinary girl forever! And I know He will do the same for you! He will! Enjoy the SPF ministry and the newsletter, and get excited about what God has in store for you and your children!

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