E-Devotion Friday, December 4, 2020

"Two roads diverged in a yellow wood, And, sorry I could not travel both..."

These are the opening lines of Robert Frost's familiar poem, **A Road Not Taken**. This comes to mind because at year's end I usually do a bit of thinking about the previous year and the decisions I've made or not made. How did they impact my life and the lives of those I care about? What roads did I take, and which did I not? Quite frankly, in this year of coronavirus, I didn't have many "roads' to choose other than to try to be safe and healthy. Given that, I'm changing my focus from looking back to a focus on the future and what comes next.

I've always been more of an optimist than a pessimist. Once the day is done, I look forward to the next with anticipation. That is why I love Advent, a season of hope and promise. Advent bridges the end of 2020 and the beginning of 2021. Therefore, I am going to strive to have an outlook of hope and promise for all of 2021. Rather than spell out a list of resolutions for the new year which I would most likely break by the middle of January, I am going to follow the guidance of Proverbs 4:5-6.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take."

To achieve this, I'm making a new commitment to prayer, daily devotions and more bible study. This is something that each and every one of us can do. I recently read a description of scripture as our "GPS for living a Christian life." So, when I need to choose which "road to take," I will trust that God's word, my GPS, has prepared me to choose wisely. I guess that may be a resolution after all. But I'm going to keep this one and I invite you to join me on this "road taken."

Let us pray: Heavenly Father, You know us so well, even better than we know ourselves. We put our trust in You and Your Word. Give us the discipline to spend more time with You in prayer, meditation, and study of your Word. Give us a sense of your will for our lives and guide us to choose the roads which lead to you. Amen.

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