



FRANKLIN ROAD

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NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 8, 2016

GOD'S WAYS DESERVE TO BE OBSERVED OVER OUR OWN INTENSIONS.

PASTOR ANDY

I REMEMBER BACK IN SEMINARY THINKING THAT WHEN I BECAME A YOUTH PASTOR AND WE HAD EVENTS LIKE THE SUPER BOWL I WOULD:

INVITE ALL THE TEENS TO COME OVER
EAT PIZZA, CHICKEN WINGS, AND SODA
TALK ABOUT THE GREAT PLAYS OF THE GAME
AND LAUGH AT ALL THE COMMERCIALS

NOW, AS I REMEMBER ALL THE WAY BACK TO LAST NIGHT, THE REALITY THAT MY THOUGHTS WERE NOT AS REALISTIC AS I ONCE REMEMBERED 10 YEARS AGO FINALLY SET IN. LAST NIGHT WE HAD:

SOME OF THE TEENS OVER
WE ATE TACOS AND DRANK WATER
TALKED ABOUT WHY HORSES ARE BETTER THAN CATS
PLAYED APPLES TO APPLES (IT IS A BOX GAME THAT MANY PEOPLE ENJOY BUT IT STILL MAKES ZERO SENSE TO ME)
AND I CAN'T REMEMBER ONE COMMERCIAL

AND I HAD A GREAT TIME. I HAD A GREAT TIME HEARING THE TEENS LAUGH. I HAD A GREAT TIME WATCHING THEM PLAY WITH MY KIDS. I HAD A GREAT TIME TALKING ABOUT THE RETREAT THAT IS COMING UP THIS NEXT WEEKEND. I DIDN'T HAVE A GREAT TIME BECAUSE THE SUPER BOWL WAS ON.

IT IS NOT WHAT I ALWAYS PICTURED IN MY HEAD AND THAT IS OK – IT WAS BETTER.

I AM REMINDED OF ACTS 16:6-10. PAUL, TIMOTHY, LUKE, AND SILAS ARE TRAVELING AND PREACHING THE GOSPEL AND DESIRE TO GO TO PHRYGIA, MYSIA, BITHYNIA, AND TROAS AND THE LORD SEVERAL TIMES TELLS THEM TO MOVE ON OR FORBIDS THEM TO DO SO. INSTEAD PAUL IS GIVEN A VISION TO MOVE ON TO MACEDONIA.

I AM SURE THEY HAD PLANS TO DO GREAT THINGS IN THOSE OTHER PLACES BUT THAT IS NOT WHAT THE LORD HAD IN MIND. THEY DIDN'T ARGUE OR FORCE THEIR PLANS – THEY JUST OBEYED. THEY COMPLETELY UNDERSTOOD "FOR MY THOUGHTS ARE NOT YOUR THOUGHTS, NOR ARE YOUR WAYS MY WAYS," DECLARES THE LORD (ISAIAH 55:8). WHEN THEY MOVED ON THEY LEFT FOR GREECE (MORE SPECIFICALLY, PHILLIPI), AND THERE THEY MET LYDIA, WHO WAS SAVED, AND WHOSE HOUSE SERVED AS THE CHURCH FOR PHILLIPI.

GOD'S WAYS DESERVE TO BE OBSERVED OVER OUR OWN INTENSIONS.

IF I DESIRED TO ONLY WATCH THE SUPER BOWL I PROBABLY WOULD HAVE NEVER TALKED ABOUT THE TEENS INTEREST'S, WATCHED VIDEOS ON THEIR PHONES OF THEM PERFORMING AT SCHOOL, AND LISTEN TO WHAT MAKES THEM LAUGH.