The Journey

Robert Frost's poem states, "Two roads diverged in a wood and I took the one less traveled by." Frost may have chosen the right road but not Anne. Anne ran down that well traveled road thinking she would find all the answers but it took God to find Anne. Confused and alone, Anne wanted to come home but she was too stubborn to do so. Anne had always been stubborn or at least her dad would say so. Her mom would have to ask Anne over and over to get something done. This was the case especially if it were something Anne thought she might not be able to do. Anne was afraid of failure! She had never really failed but she thought she had. Going down that wrong road had been easy but it would be a long journey to get back. This was a journey Anne had to take.

God wasn't silent to Anne after her decision to return home. The silent God Anne remembered as a child was replaced by a God of direction. Now God was full of requests and instructions. Anne was afraid. What if she failed God? Again! God was calling Anne but she was taking tiny steps to get there. Anne began by volunteering at camp and then through the church. She taught Sunday school and helped with programs. Eventually Anne began working all summer either at camp or with the youth program. She was even asked to fill in for the preacher one Sunday evening. Then God asked Anne to give up her career and pursue her vocation in the church.

Over the next two years Anne placed herself in the Bible passages she read. She placed herself in the stories she taught on Sunday morning. Like Jonah, Anne wanted to run away; like Thomas, she doubted; like Peter, she realized she had denied Christ; like Moses, she felt unequipped and readily made excuses; like the hemorrhaging woman, she felt unclean but believed enough just to reach out. Anne really just wanted to be like Mary, to sit and learn at Jesus' feet.

Anne knew what she had to do but was scared to make that leap of faith. Anne awoke Christmas morning the woman at the well. She was ready to tell the world about a God who knew everything about her—and she did!

Reflection:

- **♥** Who in the Bible do you identify with the most?
- ♦ What have you learned from their story about your own life?
- ♥ When have you heard God speaking in your life?
- **♥** Where is God calling you?



Closing Prayer:

Dear God we need your guidance. Each day we are faced with two roads and need your help to choose the right one. Help us through the reading of your word that we might hear with an open heart. Help us to also hear you when you speak, instead of expecting the silence. You have called us, Lord, the women of the church; to a special vocation. Help us to answer with our hearts. Amen

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