

January 5, 2021

When Coronavirus arrived in the United States in late January, I didn't understand we were enjoying a "calm before the storm." My family actually traveled to New Hampshire on March 11. While on vacation, we started to realize that major change was in the air. The first big shocker was the cancellation of the NCAA tournament.

Wait--what?!

Flying home a week later, we rolled our suitcases through deserted airports and boarded a flight in which there were only ten people on the plane, flight attendants included. My husband never went back to the office as businesses shuttered, schools closed and universities sent their students home.

Such was the reason behind the trip to Mississippi that my daughter and I made mid March to collect her books, clothes, and furniture from her apartment. After five hours of driving, we needed a walk to stretch the kinks out of our bodies and so it was that while strolling along a residential road, my daughter paused to photograph a flower.

It was a small, white flower on a three-inch stem ... and as I gazed down at that flower with its perfect bloom tilted full-up to the sun, I heard these words whisper through my soul:

Keep your eyes on the Son. In the days ahead – keep your eyes on the Son.

I was mesmerized—there was no doubt as to the Source of that thought. I was to look up.

Look up.

The importance of this spiritual truth became crystal clear in the days, weeks and months that followed as disease, natural disasters, racial tensions and political unrest ravaged not only the United States, but the entire world. When I couldn't tear my eyes away from the steady stream of bad news – much like a person rubbernecks an accident – I would be overcome with agitation, anger, and anxiety. But when I purposed to focus on the Son, to begin each day with Him, and to read His Word as often as I would the newsfeed on my phone, that is when I discovered a peace that passed my ability to understand. That is when I found the confidence to trust in the Son as my shelter in the time of storm. That is when my fears melted into love for the Son.

You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You Isaiah 26:3

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. John 3:16