



Following Jesus

Part 9 – Invites Us into a Lifetime of Adventure

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This has probably been just about the longest series we've ever done at Woodland Hills. We did this series called *Following Jesus* and I am wrapping it up today. The title of today's message is *Following Jesus Invites Us into a Lifetime of Adventure*.

Let's define what adventure is before we keep using this word. According to Webster Dictionary, adventure is:

Noun

- 1) a risky undertaking of unknown outcome. With a demographic of 60 year olds plus in the congregation this morning, just getting to the bathroom and back last night, you had a little bit of an adventure, right?
- 2) an exciting or unexpected of events. Again, that could have been last night for some of you.
- 3) a hazardous financial operation, commercial speculation.
- 4) a. a danger or misadventure
b. chance

Verb

- 5) to take a risk or put at risk
- 6) (intransitive) to dare to go or to enter (into a place, dangerous activity, etc.)
- 7) dare to say (something): He adventured his opinion.

The gospels talk about this in Matthew 10. **32** ***"Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven.*** **33** ***But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven.***

I became a believer when I was 20 years old, so that was 16 years ago. I just asked Jesus one thing. I said, "Jesus, use me however you want. I don't know what that looks like; I don't know what that entails. I have this deep longing in my soul that I know you have called us out into this adventure." That's because every time I got in his Bible, every time I read his text, and every time I was getting to that place, there was just something that wasn't sitting well with me. I knew we were meant to live for more. The more I read the scriptures and the more I saw that to be true, the more I knew this wasn't me just making it up. I knew that was exactly what Jesus called us to.

So, the question you have to ask yourselves this morning as we dive through the text and look all throughout the scripture, mainly the gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John... We'll look at verses from three of the gospels this morning. The question is "Am I living a life of adventure?" So, when I said, "Jesus, here's my life; do with it what you will," I never imagined everything he would have in store for me. I was 20 years old. I was just saying "Jesus, here's my life. I don't want to live mediocre. I don't see that in your word. I just want you to use me as you will."

Early on, he used me to do youth ministry here in Hollister. These are two of my buddies, Rodney and Mook. I love them to death. I still stay in touch with Mook; I see him every week. Jesus took me to the slums of India where as soon as you step off the plane, you can smell India. He took away some sensationalism on this trip to India. He just opened my eyes in ways I never thought. He took me to the orphans in Africa. He took me to Belize where I got to teach kids how to play basketball that don't even have shoes. I've gotten to preach the gospel in Fiji; the other side of the postcard. I have to remind people of that. There are definitely poor parts of Fiji.

In 2012, when the tornado hit Branson... We came back from our trip to Ireland and we started serving in Branson. There were homeless people that were living in some of these hotels in Branson. We got to engage with other people's families right there in Branson that had been rocked by that tornado that hit us six years ago. Then just this last year, I got to go to the Bahamas and teach kids at these basketball camps that had never been coached properly or got a lot of that attention to detail.

I don't show you guys any of that to say look at me. All this is a product of saying, "Jesus, here's my life; do with it what you will. Wherever you want me to go, I'll go." I never would have imagined that I would have gone to six continents. I never would have imagined I would have gone to all these places with my wife to share the gospel and to pour into lives. There are opportunities right here before all of you who are sitting in here today. It's not that the opportunity isn't there. But, as we are going to explore today in the text, the reality is that we are fearful of the adventure. It's a little unknown. It doesn't look very comfortable. It doesn't look very appealing. How do I know I'm going to be safe? How do I know I'm not going to get Hep A? How do I know I'm not going to get malaria? How do I know I'm not going to pick up HIV? You can play a lot of "what ifs," but I think if you play with all the "what ifs," you are going to miss the adventure that Christ calls you to. I believe that following Jesus invites us into a lifetime of adventure.

Let's look at Matthew 4. ***18 While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen.*** You fill in the blank today. For they were stay at home moms, which is a beautiful thing. For they were business men. For they were investors. For they were entertainers. For they were in the ministry. For they were students. For they were... You fill in the blank this morning.

19 And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." "I will use you in ways you can't possibly grasp or imagine. I will send you to India. I will send you to Africa. I will send you to the Bahamas." He says, "Follow me and I (Jesus) am going to use you in ways today that you can't possible even grasp or imagine." That right there is an invitation into a lifetime of adventure.

20 Immediately they left their nets and followed him. Let me tell you why that word immediately is significant. What that net represented to them was their livelihood. That was how they put food on the table for their families. That was how they put a roof over their head. This was their 401k. This was their investment. This was their property. This was everything and it says immediately they left their nets to follow him. They knew that something about Jesus was inviting them into a lifetime of adventure and they knew it was better than just casting nets the rest of their life.

21 And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets... Let me talk to you about mending nets. In that day, they would have to pull their nets out of the water and pull out all the little bones and the shellfish. They had to take care of these nets very meticulously because if they broke or they ripped, it cost money. Once again, this was their livelihood. This is how they made a living.

By the way, you didn't mend your net at the shore because you had to let them sink back into the water so they didn't get all tangled up. They would sink them into the water and mend them and just kind of pull them through the water, which is crazy if you think about this text now when it says that they immediately left the boat. That means they were jumping out into about six feet of water. They didn't care. They were in their robes and their fishing suits and they dropped them both and said "Peace, Dad, we're following that dude." That's exactly what they did. They cannon balled into the water and started following Jesus. They didn't know what's in store, but they knew they wanted to follow Him,

If we are going to be honest this morning, some of us are holding onto this 401k and our kids are in the right school and we're just holding on so tight. We have this idol of control in our hands and Jesus is asking, would you immediately let that go and follow me? Would you stop worrying about November 8? Would you stop worrying about where your kids are going to go to school? Would you stop worrying about what next week looks like?

You don't see any sign from Peter, Simon, or the sons of Zebedee where they hesitated. There was no hesitation because they know this truth. They know that there is nothing greater or better than following Jesus into a lifetime of adventure. They know that reality and they are convicted of it to the core. That's the only reason they would be willing to let go of everything they know as comfortable and follow him into the unknown. He didn't say where they were going. Nowhere in this text does it say Jesus told them what they were going to do and what was going to happen. There was no five-year plan if they followed him. **...and he called them. 22 Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.**

Being invited into adventure means letting go of what makes sense. Trust me, I'm married and I have two kids. What makes sense is comfortable for me. It makes sense that we do this Monday through Friday and we do this on Saturday. I get routine and I know moms love routine, especially my mom and my wife. I get that, but sometimes, no, a lot of the time, following Jesus means letting go of what makes sense. You have to realize that we live in a fallen world. If we live in a fallen world, following a sinless savior, what he calls us to isn't going to make sense compared to what the world says. His advice and his calling is often going to contradict that of worldly or secular advice, i.e. Dr. Phil, Oprah, Ellen... I won't go on. But, it's going to look radically different.

Let's get into Luke 18. So, we keep seeing these invitations of Jesus. What did it look like when those people were invited to follow Jesus? **18 And a ruler asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" 19 And Jesus said to him...** This is almost a facetious question because Jesus knows the answer to this. **"Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone."** Jesus is God, so instantly, he's calling out in this rich young ruler that he doesn't even realize who Jesus is. He calls him Good Teacher, but he doesn't realize that he is God in the flesh. **20 "You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery, Do not murder, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.' "**

21 And he said, "All these I have kept from my youth." He's like "I've done it! I've checked the boxes. I've done everything you've asked. I go to church at Woodland Hills, I volunteer, I look awesome, I go to Awana, we memorize verses together. I've checked all these boxes."

Then Jesus gets to the one thing, the one source idol, the one thing he wants to hang onto. **22 When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "One thing you still lack."** Jesus knows that one thing we want to hold onto and he knew what this rich young ruler wanted to hang onto. **"Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me."** Here is the invitation into a lifetime of adventure and he rejects it. **23 But when he heard these things, he became very sad, for he was extremely rich.** Rich in the world's eyes. Jesus was inviting him to be rich in heaven's eyes. **24 Jesus, seeing that he had become sad, said, "How difficult it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God! 25 For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God."**

That does not say that rich people won't be in heaven. What it does say is when people love money more than Jesus, it's time to examine whether or not they truly love Jesus at all. Money is not evil. We often misconstrue that verse. 1 Timothy 6: 10 says the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. We need finances to support churches, missionaries, the gospel going out, adoption, orphans, and widows. We need finances, but Jesus is saying "Rich young ruler, do you really want to follow me? Do you really want to come into a lifetime of adventure?"

But he loved his money because everything about his money provided comfort. Everything about his money provided everything he wanted and everything he had, so he didn't want to do that. "I'll keep checking my boxes and going through my legalism and just making sure I'm doing everything I need to do." And Jesus said, "You're missing the point. It is nothing about your efforts; it has everything to do with the fact that I'm calling you out to follow me."

But he's like "I know what I have right now. I know my nice house. I know my food. I know my pigs. I know my sheep. I know what I get to eat every week. Everything I have is comfortable and I love that. Why would you call me out of that?" He says, "That's exactly what I want to call you out of. That's called a comfort idol and I want to pull you out of it. You're living there because everything in that makes sense to you."

Being invited by Jesus requires sacrifice. Going on those trips to Africa, to India, to third world countries, there is a lot of sacrifice in that. My sweet wife has made lots of sacrifices. We have taken a

two-year-old literally across the world on 12 hour flights. Put that in your soup and see how it tastes. But, this idea that we would follow Jesus... Every invitation that you will see through the gospels today required somebody to give up something. So, why do we think it would be different two thousand years later when Jesus invites us into a lifetime of adventure. Why, all of the sudden, do we think we're in comfortable America and no longer does it require us to give up anything? To have a conversation with somebody will require sacrifice. To actually listen to somebody and engage them in a conversation and come into their world will require a time sacrifice. To give to people that need your help to put food on other people's tables to help single moms... That requires sacrifice. There is no invitation from Jesus all throughout the gospels that doesn't require the individual that is receiving the invitation to give up something. He knows what you're giving up pales in comparison to what you gain with him. He knows that. We don't, do we? We love this idea of comfort.

Let's continue back to Matthew. **19 And a scribe came up and said to him, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go."** That's a bold statement. **20 And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head."** **21 Another of the disciples said to him, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father."** **22 And Jesus said to him, "Follow me, and leave the dead to bury their own dead."**

Jesus is not lacking compassion here. What Jesus is saying is there will always be a "Yeah, but..." There will always be an excuse of why we can't step into that adventure with him now. You're telling him in your head right now, "I'll just wait until my kids have graduated high school and then we'll jump into the adventure Jesus has for us." "I'll just wait until my 401k is set." "I'll just wait until everything is in comfort order the way I want." There will always be that excuse. Jesus says the invitation for you, Woodland Hills, is today. Its right now.

My wife and I have a sweet... We call her Momma Sug. It's because she calls everyone Suga, not because she's a sugar momma. She like a surrogate grandmother to our boys. Her husband owns a furniture store down in Mississippi so we get hooked up; she just takes care of us. She brought this pillow to my wife a couple of weeks ago. It's a pillow that never gets hot. It's always cold. It's like one of those Tempurpedic pillows where your head just literally morphs into the pillow. And she has hooked us up with like 10,000 thread count sheets. I'm not even kidding you. This woman is amazing. She's hooked us up on several occasions to where our house is just more furnished and comfortable. I'm not exaggerating that at least over ten times my wife and I have gotten in bed at night it's just like, "Oh my gosh, I love this bed so much." It's got a Tempurpedic foam mattress so you just morph into it. Then, I have a Tempurpedic pillow and my head just morphs into it. So, I'm calling myself out with where I'm about to go with this, okay?

When I'm on the road for three or four days, I long for my bed. I cannot wait to get back in my bed. I don't care if I'm staying at the Hilton or where I'm staying, there is no bed that compares to you own bed. There is just something about that. I was thinking about this passage. We live in a world that's concerned with the thread counts of our sheets. Some of you in here probably have 5,000 or 10,000 thread count. But, Jesus is saying zero thread count. Following him calls me out of that comfort zone. He says zero thread count might be the cost for some of us to go into that lifetime of adventure.

Being invited into adventure calls us out of our comfort zones. I'm just telling what I see in the gospels. When I read through the text in the gospels, I just don't see anywhere where Jesus says "Hey, I want you to follow me, but just stay in your comfort zone. Stay with your 10,000 thread count, stay comfortable, don't do anything. As a matter of fact, get your 401k, spend the rest of your life playing 18 holes of golf, collect sea shells, enjoy Hillbilly Vegas, and do everything you want." I just don't see that in the text. I'm not trying to be harsh; I'm just telling you what I see in the word. I don't see anywhere where he says, "Remain right there. I want you to stay right there." I don't see it.

Let's go again to Matthew 9. ***9 As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he rose and followed him.*** I love this passage. Do you guys know who tax collectors were. They were hated. Just like you guys hate the IRS still to this day. Sorry if you're an IRS member in here. We love you. I love you. I can't speak for everyone. Matthew was a tax collector who was hated by the legalists, the Pharisee. He was hated by everyone else on the outside. Jesus came to him and called him. This is a beautiful thing: Jesus did just pick a way a certain person looked or how smart a person was or who they were. Jesus picked even the most unlikely of people to follow him.

I don't know if you watched when they came out with the Bible Project and they did the series on television. There is a scene from here I want you to watch. It's this verse coming to life.

Video plays: www.youtube.com/watch?v=8OUOjEoa7F4

Amen to Jesus calling the sinner to follow him. Amen that he does invite sinners into that lifetime of adventure. Let me remind you of God's story and the people... If you're sitting here this morning and you think there's no way; you're too far gone. Hey can't use your story. Let me just remind you of a few characters throughout the scripture that God pulled into that lifetime of adventure. It had nothing to do with their race, nothing to do with their demographic, nothing to do with their intelligence, nothing to do with their upbringing. It had to do with the fact that they said, "God, here I am. I want to go into that lifetime of adventure."

Moses didn't speak very well. Noah was a drunk. Sarah was too old. Don't use that excuse this morning; it's a lie. Abraham was a liar on multiple occasions. Rahab was a prostitute. David was a murderer, adulterer, and a conspirator and we call him a man with a whole heart for God. Balaam's donkey was a donkey. Timothy was too young. Gideon doubted. Paul was impulsive. Peter had a big mouth. Lazarus was dead. Matthew was a tax collector.

It doesn't matter where you or I are from. There's nothing about my upbringing; there's nothing significant about Adam Donyes that God should be using me in these ways other than the fact that when I was 20 years old, I told God, "Wherever you want to take me, I will go." That's because I know, deep down, just like all of you today know, deep down, something in your soul tells you there is more to life than this. That's because there is and this isn't it. How you exhaust this will determine how you spend what's after this. That's the beautiful thing. That's an invitation for every single one of you in here today.

The invitation towards adventure is for everyone. The invitation is different for everyone. The invitation for some of you today, if you're in your 60s or 70s, might be to stop spending your days playing shuffleboard and maybe invest into somebody younger that could heed knowledge from you. If you're younger, it might be just seeking that wisdom. If you're a married couple and you've got kids in your teens, maybe it's pouring into a mom that's about to pull her hair out because she's got a kid that won't sleep through the night right now. That's an adventure.

And adventure doesn't mean you have to get on a plane. You don't have to get on a plane to be missional. You can be missional right here in Branson. That's why I showed that picture of the hotel that was thrashed by the tornado. I sat down with a mom this week that cried her eyes out because her son had cut his wrists. He had to be rushed to the hospital and got 15 stitches. I texted her son. There is a new adventure waiting for me. We'll see what God does with it. We'll see how God uses it. But I just say, "God, here I am. You obviously put me in the path of his mom this week for a reason. You obviously connected me with her son. I'm here. I don't know what it looks like, but let's go on this adventure."

Again, in Matthew, we see this. Now I know Donyes is the intense one. Ted is the funny one. I know I'm a little intense. Relax. Here's a relaxing verse for you guys. I get it; I'm passionate. Jeremiah 20:9 says ***9 But if I say, "I will not mention his word or speak anymore in his name," his word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot.***

Matthew 11 says, ***28 "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden..."*** Are any of you in here just exhausted, wiped out, tired, got kids. I wasn't saying exhausted by me; I was saying exhausted by life. ***"...and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."***

This is an invitation to adventure here and here's why. He doesn't say that alcohol will take care of that burden. He doesn't say that drugs will take care of that burden. He doesn't say that affairs will take care of that burden. He doesn't say that pornography will take care of that burden. He doesn't say that worrying will take care of that burden. He says nothing external will take care of that burden. What will take care of that burden is Jesus Christ alone. So now he's saying, "Okay you're worried about all these things and why you can't follow me into this lifetime of adventure. Give me all of it. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Accepting the invitation to adventure rejuvenates the soul.

I have a friend who has only been a friend for about a year. His name is Bill Landers and he's a missionary in the Bahamas in a Eleuthera. Eleuthera is not like NASA. Eleuthera is like 20 years behind NASA. It's a very poor island. We took our Link Year crew over there last year to do some work with them in Eleuthera. I got to know Bill extremely well. Bill had been a pastor of a church in Georgia for about 30 plus years. He planned on retiring. Retirement was around the corner and he was done. He had faithfully served in the same church with the same people. He loved them well. He has run multiple marathons. As a matter of fact, he doesn't have any of middle toes. He just has his pinky toe and his big toe because of how much stuff he has put on his feet. He's just one of kind.

Bill was telling me a story when I was in the Bahamas serving with him last year. He had served 30 years. He said he just couldn't imagine just retiring and doing nothing for the kingdom for however long the Lord had left for him on this earth. He and his wife started praying about it and they decided to retire on the mission field. They are going to retire sharing the gospel and biblically equipping bohemians on the island of Eleuthera. You'd think if there was one guy who could say, I've done my time well; I'm done... He didn't want to collect sea shells. He didn't want to go RVing. That didn't make sense and he knew because Jesus was calling him into a new adventure.

They just barely got hit by hurricane Matthew and now he is getting to love and to serve. He sends me updates all the time and my wife and I get to stay in touch with him. It's amazing. Here's a guy that regardless of how much he had done for the kingdom, he realizes that adventure will never stop until he takes his last breath. And he understands that even that invitation still rejuvenates his souls. He's coming more alive. He has stepped into a new season.

Do you realize that even stepping outside of your comfort zone is where life really begins and it might actually rejuvenate your soul? It might give you energy. It might get you excited when you see how God uses you to impact the lives of others.

When all we do is take, that's exhausting. It's just like a five-year-old kid. As soon as you give him a Christmas present, he wants something else. It's never enough. When we live in this place where we constantly just want, want, want, and it's never enough, we know that. But, when we begin to give, watch how you come to life.

Then John 10 says this: **10 "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy."** He wants to steal your lifetime of adventure, kill your marriages, destroy... whatever the case. That's the only reason he comes. The Greek word here for only is only. The only reason he comes is to steal, kill, and destroy and to keep you from living a lifetime of adventure. If your life is boring, it's not because Jesus wants your life to be boring. If your life is boring, it's because the thief has come to make your life boring. There hasn't been a day in my life since I surrendered to Jesus that I've been bored. There have been a lot of days in my life that I have exhausted my wife because I don't sit still because I'm always seeking that adventure. But Jesus came... ***"I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."*** Jesus came that we would live lives of adventure. Following Jesus invites us into a lifetime of adventure. That is the title for this talk this morning.

When you walked in here, you received one of these invitations. You're invited. If you didn't get one, you can get one on your way out. Who doesn't love an invitation. Guess what? You're all invited. Every single one of you in here today. The reason it's blank on the back is because your invitation is different than his invitation. Your invitation is different than her invitation. I don't know what the Holy Spirit is inviting you to this morning. Maybe it's someone at the grocery store that you see every time you check out. Maybe it's someone you do workouts with. Maybe it's someone at the school that you bump into and you just keep wanting to talk to them. Invite them into the family to have dinner.

Maybe you somehow got drug into church today and you've never had a relationship with Jesus Christ and your invitation is to come to know him and live a lifetime of adventure. Maybe your invitation this

morning is to surrender all your sins at the cross and be redeemed and renewed in him and have eternal life. You get to decide that this morning. You get to write on the back what you're invited to. You're all invited and you've got to RSVP. This is Jesus we're talking to. You've got to at least RSVP on this one and just let the Spirit stir in your heart this morning. If you're not a believer and you don't have the Spirit, maybe that's your invitations this morning.

We've got to look at how the eleven that he personally invited... He didn't give them a card like I gave you, but he personally looked them in the eyes and said, "Come here; you're invited." We know what happen to Judas Iscariot, right? Judas Iscariot betrayed him and then killed himself. But what about the other eleven that accepted the invitation to follow Jesus for a lifetime of adventure? What happened to them?

I've researched this. Andrew was crucified on an X shape cross, unworthy to die on the same type of cross his Lord and Savior died on. Bartholomew was filleted alive with knives while preaching the gospel. James the Elder, the Bible says he was slain by Herod Agrippa. James the Less was crucified and afterwards, his body was sawed into pieces. John the Revelator, an attempt was made on his life where they put him in a boiling pot of oil. God spared him so he could write the Book of Revelation when he was deserted to the Island of Patmos. Phillip was killed by hanging. While he was grasping for his last breath, he requested that his dead body be wrapped in papyrus and not in fine linen like his Lord and Savior had been wrapped. Peter was crucified upside down, unworthy to die on the same type of cross his Lord and Savior died on. Jude was shot with arrows at Mt. Ararat. Matthew and Simon, history records that they disappeared as missionaries and probably died as martyrs. Thomas was summoned to build a palace in India where he was run through with a spear.

I'm not telling you to go die for Jesus. In this culture, living for him, accepting that invitation to a lifetime of adventure, can be even harder than dying. But I know that one day, you and I will walk into the presence of Jesus and there will be those eleven that accepted the invitation to a lifetime of adventure and they'll look at you and say, "Tell me your story. Tell me what you did with the invitation that Jesus gave you."

We sing songs often in church. I'll close with this story. One of the songs we sing is called It is Well with My Soul. Our sweet worship singer, Carolyn Hill and Jerod Hill... Carolyn lost her father this week down in Texas. An eighteen-wheeler ran a red light and took out her dad. There is a new adventure in store for Carolyn and Jerod. Carolyn and Jerod are in our small group and we love them to death. Steph and I have been praying for them all week. Our hearts have just been heavy. We sing this song, It is Well with my Soul, and we have no knowledge of where it actually comes from.

Let me tell you the history behind this song. There was a man named Horacio Spafford. He was a successful warrior and business man in Chicago in the late 1800s. He invested in a lot of real estate along Lake Michigan and put almost all of his life savings into that. In 1870, as you are familiar with history, this great Chicago fire happened and wiped out all of his investments. A year before that, he had five children and one wife. One of his children was a boy. A year before that, he lost his only son to Scarlet Fever. After losing his only son and losing all of his investments, they kind of got back on their feet. In 1872, they decided it was time for the family to have a holiday.

They were friends with the great evangelist Dwight L. Moody. He decided he was going to take his family to Europe where Dwight L. Moody was doing some evangelistic crusades. The day before they were to leave, Horacio Spafford had some business he needed to deal with so he told his wife Anna that he would catch up with the family in Europe. He sent his wife and four daughters on the Ville du Havre out of New York.

The next morning, he opens the newspaper to see that the Ville du Havre had struck an iron steel vessel coming from Europe, sinking and killing 226 people. Thinking he had lost his entire family, he gets a telegram the next day that has only six words on it. "Saved alone. What shall I do?"

He quickly catches the next ship to Europe to catch up with his wife. As he is sailing, the captain of the ship calls him up when they are about to cross the middle of the Atlantic. The captain points out where his daughter's watery grave was. History records that it was at this point that Horacio Spafford began to pen the words Peace like a river... And as he's looking at the sea billow roll, those sorrows like sea billows roll.

He learned that regardless of what happened, it is well with his soul. After this, he and his wife moved from the states and became missionaries in Jerusalem. They had seen that with everything that had happened, God used it as another opportunity to step into a lifetime of adventure. They didn't use it as an excuse as to why they couldn't do this. Horacio and his wife Anna Spafford, amidst great tragedy and loss, were still able to say it is well with my soul because they believed and trusted that with Jesus, it is always well and that he still had another adventure for them around the corner.