

## Filling the Void

*From Cindy Buntin*

Trust in the Lord with all your heart  
and lean not on your own understanding.  
In all your ways acknowledge Him  
and He will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:5-6

These two verses define a pivotal turning point in my life.

I searched my entire life to fill a void inside my heart. I tried to fill it with earthly things: parents, education, career, friends, spouse, entertainment, money, grown-up toys, and a nice big house. Basically I was chasing the "American Dream" so to speak: get an education, get a good job, get married, have 2.5 children, and live happily ever after. Except there was one big problem - I was NOT living happily ever after. In fact, I was miserable, depressed, and tired of searching for fulfillment. Each one of those things left me feeling empty inside. I was ready to give up on life if emptiness was all it had to offer.

I am so thankful God was not willing to give up on me! He gave me Proverbs 3:5-6 to learn at the lowest point of my life. I wrote it down daily for more than a year, not knowing why, but trusting God had a reason for giving it to me. Within just a few short months I had surgery, my husband got a job transfer from Illinois to Nebraska, I had to quit my teaching job of 16 years to move, and we were expecting our first baby after six years of infertility. We left everything we knew in Illinois - family, friends, and jobs - to move to Nebraska and start a family of our own.

It suddenly became clear why I was learning these verses. Now was the time to put God's word to the test. I had a choice to make. Was I going to trust God or was I going to try to get through these huge changes on my own, knowing I had done a miserable job of dealing with life on my own? Instead of getting overwhelmed and more depressed, I found myself trusting in God with all my heart. I decided to let Him direct my path and suddenly I became excited for all the changes that were coming so quickly. When I put my trust in Christ, He gave me a peace I had never known before. I finally realized He was the one I had been searching for. He filled the void in my heart, and gave me the peace and contentment that was missing in my life.

Are you searching for someone or something to make you happy? Do you have a void in your life that never seems to go away? If so, Jesus will fill it for you if you let Him. In fact, He wants to fill it. He is waiting for you to open your heart to Him. When you do, He will give you peace and contentment in the midst of every situation you are going through in your life.

Will you open your heart to Him today?

If you have already put your trust in Jesus, have you given Him complete control of your life in every situation? If you are not experiencing the peace and contentment of Christ, consider where you might be holding on to control and surrender it to Him today.

God changed my life through these two verses, and He can do the same for you!

In Christ,  
Cindy