

HE DOES NOT FORGET ABOUT US

On Sunday afternoon I decided to stop into Tim Hortons and sit at one of the booths so that I could plan out my week ahead with a coffee in hand. It was just after 4:00 p.m. so the early shift had already finished for the day, leaving only three staff on. It was not busy when I came in but shortly after things began to pick up. A line started forming inside while, at the same time, the drive-thru got busy. The three staff were devoting all of their attention to the drive-thru and forgetting about the customers waiting inside. One of the customers standing in line shouted to the employees at the drive-thru, "**Don't forget about us here!**" I could tell from the tone of his voice that he was not angry but just wanted to bring to the employees' attention that there were customers waiting at the counter too. The staff apologized and shortly thereafter one of them came over to serve customers waiting at the counter.

Hearing the customer's words on Sunday afternoon reminded me of a conversation I had with somebody many years ago who was worried God would forget about him. I had coffee with this man while he was going through a time of uncertainty in his life. There were so many factors in his life that were beyond his control and even though he was a person of faith, he was visibly worried going through this uncertain period of his life. We talked about the importance of trusting God in moments like he was experiencing. I remember him saying, "**I know but I just hope God does not forget about me in all of this!**" I assured him that God would not forget about him, but I felt I needed to give him some proof of this at that moment to hold onto. I felt led to remind him about how God remembered Noah when he was on the ark after the flood began:

But God remembered Noah and all the wild animals and livestock with him in the boat. He sent a wind to blow across the earth, and the floodwaters began to recede. (Genesis 8:1)

Just as this person needed a reminder that God remembers us in our times of weakness, don't we all need this reminder? Thankfully the Bible is filled with examples showing us how God remembers us in our times of weakness and need. Another example I could have shared with this man can be found in **Exodus 2:23-25** while the Hebrews were living in slavery:

But the Israelites continued to groan under their burden of slavery. They cried out for help, and their cry rose up to God. God heard their groaning, and He remembered His covenant promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He looked down on the people of Israel and knew it was time to act.

The psalmist also understood this important truth how God remembers us in our times of weakness.

**He remembered us in our weakness. His faithful love endures forever.
(Psalm 136:23)**

In times of weakness, we often worry that God will forget to show His love and kindness toward us. Thankfully we do not have to worry about this because the Bible makes it very clear how God does not forget about us. His love for us does not allow for that. He is always faithful when it comes to remembering us in our times of need and showing us His faithful love and care. In our times of weakness let us remember to follow in the example of the Hebrews while in slavery and call out in prayer to the One who can help. By remembering to pray in these moments we will know we do not have to worry that God will forget about us.

When the customer called out to be remembered at Tim Hortons on Sunday, it reminded me of the conversation I had many years earlier with a man worried that God would forget about him. These words also led me to take a few moments this week to look at other examples in Scripture that remind us that God remembers us. God did remember this man who felt trapped in a situation that was beyond his control. I still remember how big this man's smile was when he discovered He was not forgotten by God.

Keep safe and God bless,

Pastor Dean