Grief and Comfort

I couldn't sleep. I was just lying in bed and my mind was spinning… you know with a million things that have NO REAL MEANING. Skimming over and over these thoughts, I honestly have no idea why such things steal from our rest to recharge. When I have this happen, I typically feel the urge to pray, that God needs me praying more than I need rest.

But… This… this is something else…. it's like a nagging of powerful emptiness that continues to linger, while a peaceful joy settles over, wanting to take its place. It goes in these weird waves.

I need a moment….

You know, God has given each of us moments along with every person in those moments. I often forget He gave people to us, and they are not ours but His. It's so weird… almost like a "lease" for us to grow with, enjoy, steward, and most importantly raise up in His wisdom, and care for them, carefully living life fully yet so naïve to the fact that He will want them back. We were never meant to live forever here but with Him in eternity.

When God gifts you the perfect souls and you fill your hearts with steadfast love, with moments of stewardship for years, enjoying the company, and building a life; the giving-them-back process feels hard. Forgetting that they were never ours to keep seems ruthless when they are called home. Forgetting that their purpose was to live according to His purpose not ours makes you wonder what on earth the Lord was doing when He created such perfection just to leave us with heartache. A perspective that is easily forgotten as we allow ourselves to "live" life as we see fit.

44 years ago, God matched me perfectly with this Grandmother. God "leased" me to her and she took her assignment and aced it! She was prepared when I came along; molded and shaped to impart her love and wisdom throughout the years. She would need it with me! The wisdom that she so freely gave me and the tender love that she shared has proved that she accomplished her mission beautifully.

When I asked her once how a person grows old, she told me, "Gracefully"…. At the time I had no idea what she meant, nor did I realize how much wisdom that one word held. In Hebrew this word is "ḥen" — it means favor, pleasantness, charm, and grace:

Dignity — not clinging to fear but walking with peace.
Humility — accepting God's design and season of life.
Beauty of Spirit — letting the inner person of the heart shine as the outer person changes.
Strength in Weakness — depending on God's grace as physical strength fades.

Grace is God's favor resting on you. Not only did she leave me with this word full of wisdom, "Gracefully," I got to see her show me how to live this out so beautifully.

I know how to get to your address: John 3:36
I know what to look for: a city of light and streets of pure gold.
I know the place you'll be: at Gods throne with angels praising him.
I know your home: will have no sorrow, pain, or death anymore.
You won't be hard to find! 💞

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