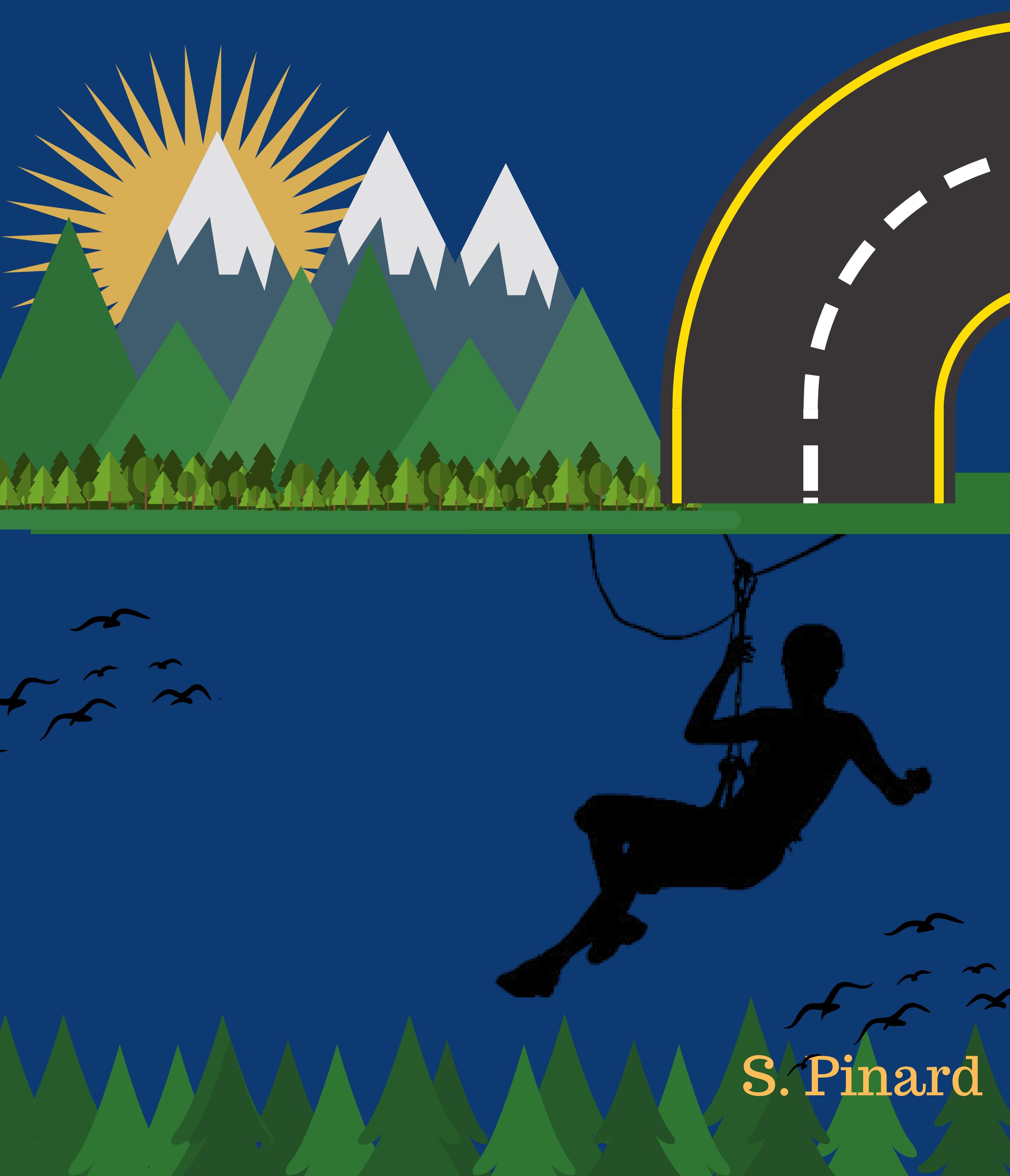


WHERE ARE YOU?

Trying to find God in the moment

3 Day Devotional





Sometimes we get ignorant. Yes ignorant. Like if you weren't in the situation but a bystander looking on you would think the questions you ask God are stupid-based on what you saw leading up to the question.

So i recently went ziplining with a friend's touring company. And she held some...lets call them surprises for us as participants. Now Im already afraid of heights, but i wanted to support her and i have this thing about facing the things you're afraid of at least once. Mind you ive been sky diving. But thats neither here nor there. But lets go through the process to get to ziplining



You're sent a consent form which has a detailed explanation on what could happen or you should accept- but yea, if you're me, you started to act like you were reading it but then scrolled to the sign off part and called it a day.

You go to the pick up part where you're transportation awaits; breakfast and lunch are there - part of the fee you've already paid so there are no hidden fees sneaking up on you

The company owners are there with the company tees so you know who to look for if there is a question.

You get to the destination safe and sound, then are fitted with gear that they check 2x before you take a short hike to your next instruction stage. At that stage you they give you a demonstration and more explanation about the hooks and straps that are on you and check you again before directing you to the 2 practice Zipline stations. You walk the 1st station and they check you before hooking you to a bridge that they go cross before you and prepare for you to cross on the other side. While you cross slowly because the bridge is shaky even though you're hooked by steel cables; they are moving people out of the way, sending off others who arrived before you



Then when you get to platform to take off you are again given a 4 point check and given more instructions on how to glide across and what to look for when you're getting closer. And if that wasn't enough, they tell you no matter what you do, even if you forget all that they told you to do, you will still arrive safely.

Now you walk up to the platform, you're holding onto your trolley and they tell you to just push off. Yes you, the one with the fear of heights- you have to do this. They offer to push you off but you want to know that you can do this. But for a moment you hesitate. Ok longer than a moment. You let a couple people go before you. Then its your turn. You hold on to the trolley, they count you down and you..... let go

In that moment before you let go of the stability you knew and the stability that you have yet to test, you wonder should I do this. You think what if? Maybe I should let them check again. And midway through you realize, you're "flying"; the ride is almost done.

Then you get to next platform and they do another 4pt check, tell you what to do and again reassure you they'll catch you. Yet still you have a moment of fear before you push off



Now if I told you I still had questions after all those details, would you think- "What else could you want to know?". And this is the truncated version of the process. I asked safety questions; how many times they've been on it; the what ifs and but maybes- they answered all.

I submit to you that this is how we are with God.

In moments of fear, we are asking God "where are you?". We want to hear a voice, see a sign, feel a comfort that, at times, does not come. And you know why?- the teacher is always quiet during the exam. Nope. Though this is true, it is only part of the answer.

What about the checks?

Yes, the checks. The instructions given before during and after. The instructors that guided you from beginning to end and duplicated those checks. The visible presentations, the wire checks, going before you to show you it was safe to go.

Day 1 Lean Not on Your Own Understanding

Proverbs 3:5

Those instructions that I spoke of, God has given us in the Bible. No matter what the question- the what ifs, the maybes, the what abouts- God has placed the answer in there. We don't need to figure it out on our own because most of the time, the answer is placed out of our reach and closer to God. It is there we need to draw closer to if we want the answers we search for.

Take time to write out the questions that you can't answer. Not the ones you know the answers to already. Yes you should apologize, yes you should help them even though they didn't help you; yes Jesus would do it.

Instead focus on the ones that sound like this

- when will I be over this
- what do I do now
- when will it be my turn
- why did they have to be taken before....

- Jeremiah 33:3
- Psalm 32:8
- Ephesians 1:7



Day 2

For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power

2 Timothy 1:7

The straps, hooks, helmets, trolley to hold onto, and belts tied around me tightly were the same as the Holy Spirit within us. You have what you need for the next step. Just because you can't physically hold onto it, does not mean you're alone.

Stop and take inventory of what God has provided while you walked this journey. You were in an emotional pain that might have even felt physical yet, you were able to get up, go to work, you helped some people during your own grief, or even experienced promotion. How? You know where your mind and heart were, so how is it that you were able to accomplish these things while in this pain or confusion?

It was the Holy Spirit

- Joshua 1:9
- Psalm 27:3
- Isaiah 41:10



Day 3 Lord if its you, command me to come to you... Matthew 14:28

The steel rope to the other side is last. It was designed to carry heavy loads; thrown countless of tests its way to ensure that it would withhold any amount of pressure on it, and it did. The steel rope went up ahead of the ones that would make the journey across and showed that it could be done. Yes, there were bad weather days, yes there were those that doubted it could do the job and with that loss of faith, didn't go on the journey. But for the ones that believed and held onto hope, the journey was exciting and it built endurance for the next one.

The steel rope for us is Jesus. He takes on our weight as we journey across to the platform he has prepared for us. He hasn't asked us to do anything that he has not done for us first. Matter fact, he went ahead so that he could clear the way of any battles we wouldn't be able to take on. His words say

"In this world you will have trouble, but take heart, for I have conquered the world" John 16:33

- 2 Corinthian 5:7
- 1 Peter 5:7
- Phillipians 4:13



I hope this helped you prepare...

So if you're ready...

- 1- Pick up your Bible
- 2- Embrace the Holy Spirit within you
- 3- Remember, He's conquered the world

Now.....

Take Off!



Romans 4:16-21
Genesis 5: 21-24
Hebrews 11

2 Kings 2: 3-11- to walk into the ending of a phase in your life with confidence- knowing that you've given and done all that was asked for you so there was a lack of fear with Elijah as went on this journey probably knowing this would his last here on Earth.