



## Day 7

### From Sorrow to Joy

*John 16: 20-22*

*<sup>20</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. <sup>21</sup> When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has*

*been born into the world. <sup>22</sup> So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.*

For all of my childhood, Easter was candy in Easter baskets, new clothes, church (when I went with my Grandmother) and not much else. Not until 1993-1994 did it really hit me in the teeth that it was a lot more!

In 1993, we lost our son, Dan. He fell on a Boy Scout outing. God and I put on the boxing gloves for a bit and we were still taking shots at each other when Easter 1994 rolled around. God does accept that kind of behavior when necessary; He has pretty big, soft shoulders.

Anyway, back to Easter 1994. I arrived at Hilltop CC at the appointed time. I was not happy and feeling just sorry for myself; but as I sat there, I began to notice the sun coming in the windows, Easter flowers covering the chancel and some of my favorite music being sung. Of course, I began to think of Dan and it dawned on me that today was for him, today was for all those who had gone before us. And yes, there is joy in realizing that this is the real Easter.

This is my Story: I will see our son again. This is my Song: I celebrate Easter and the rest of my life with joy! "Praising my Savior all the day long"!

**God of hope, in our deepest sorrow, you hold us close. When grief clouds our hearts, remind us that joy is not lost—it is promised. Thank you for the Easter truth that love endures, and life in you is everlasting. Amen.**

– Liz Meeker