

Tips for Finding Peace When Sudden Chaos Strikes

1. Life has been calm, when you are blindsided by sudden chaos. You don't know how the problem could have happened.
2. You tell yourself to think of a solution, but all you see is the huge forest of despair.
3. Look up. Remind yourself God is with you.
4. God knows what is happening. He knew before you were born this would happen.
5. Consciously observe what God will do. After all, life is 10% of what happens to you and 90% how you react to it.
6. Rest in God's calming spirit, and you may hear his answer as he walks through the chaos with you.

The following is an excerpt from my book illustrating what to do when chaos strikes.

Answered Prayer in Chaos

What are most people doing on a frigid Sunday morning before dawn? My guess would be sleeping. There was no relaxing for me. Our dogs, Faith and Giles, wanted my attention. Specifically, to go outside to do their business.

An extending leash attached to each dog kept them controlled so they didn't attempt to find a new place to make their deposits. Giles's leash was attached to the right side of my wheelchair. I held Faith's in my left hand. My free right hand drove my power chair.

It took some coordination to get the dogs plus my wheelchair through the door, make an immediate left turn, maneuver the serpentine ramp, then go across the driveway to the grass.

The dogs both found their special place and made their deposit. Giving each the command to come with me, I turned around, and we began our short, frigid trek back across the driveway. The distant porch light outlined the dogs trotting toward the house.

All of a sudden, Faith jerked to a stop. Past experience told me her leash had gotten wrapped around the axle of my wheelchair.

I used the flashlight function on my smartphone to see what needed done to free her. The only thing visible was the leash extending from the wheel straight to Faith

I tried waving the flashlight beam from my smartphone at cars passing by, and I saw brake lights. A red long-bed pickup pulled into the driveway. *The calvary has arrived.*

The man got out of his truck and sat down on the cold blacktop to examine the problem. Faith took the opportunity to play as she gave the man her doggie greeting of licks and tail wags. He couldn't see the tangle, let alone fix it, while she was thanking him canine style.

Unfazed, the man calmly unclipped Faith from her confinement and reattached her head halter to the same leash as Giles. The two dogs stood immobile, not sure what to do, their heads touching like conjoined twins connected at their noses.

The man soon freed the leash from my wheelchair, then put Faith back on her own leash.

The dogs and I hurried back the way we'd come. I was anxious to get inside to warmth and safety. On the top tier of the ramp, I pushed the button to open the power door. Then I turned around to make sure the man was leaving. I was startled when I realized he was standing right behind me. He followed me to make sure I got back inside safely.

I had prayed for help, and God had answered my prayer by sending someone to my rescue. He'd known what I needed far more than I did and had known it before my mishap ever occurred. In fact, this man was already driving for his morning coffee before the leash got tangled.

This man had done more than I'd even prayed about. He'd not only untangled the leash but provided a coat to keep me warm. He'd cared about keeping my dogs near me and had made sure I was able to get back into our warm house. When I'd feared I might end up an icy popsicle in my own driveway, God had protected me from harm by sending a chivalrous knight named Marty in a red pickup truck.

This is the link to my book.

https://www.amazon.com/s?k=joanpatterson+a+matter+of+faith&crd=2M4QMQY1APLUU&prefix=joanpatterson+a+matter+of+faith%2Caps%2C77&ref=nb_sb_noss

