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October 9: One Prayer Thought Away

Jeremiah Chapter 29 verse 11: For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Prayer: Dear Lord Jesus: Help me not to take your grace and your goodness for granted. Thank you for loving humankind even when we had sinned in rebellion toward God and for taking the punishment for our sins on the cross. May we walk in obedience to God's plan for our lives by the power of the Holy Spirit, as you showed us in your perfect example. Amen.

I was scheduled to attend a Seminar earlier in the week. I woke up early, decided to snooze a little, woke up late and missed the train. I would now get to the Seminar thirty minutes late instead of an hour early. However, at the station I found out that the printed directions I got the day before were not the most up to date directions. I would have to switch trains to get to my destination and that would mean I would be an hour late. The Seminar was scheduled for two and a half hours before the break-out "one on one" discussions and I hated to miss a whole hour. I had prayed and asked God for forgiveness for waking up late but now I thought in prayer, "Could God somehow have the Seminar start late?" It would be a whisper of a prayer thought because I could not recall a Seminar that short starting a whole hour late. And so I continued my journey. I found I qualified for an off peak fare now that I was late and was thankful for that. When I got to the Seminar registration desk, the lady asked if I had been caught in the train signal mess up and told me the Seminar had just started! What had happened? Somehow the signal that would bring the attendees to the Seminar had a signal problem and was diverting trains away from the Seminar. One of the Speakers on the Panel of three was affected and so they had to wait. After the Seminar which was extremely productive, I heard the regular commuters on the train complaining about how the trains were VERY LATE that morning because of the signal problem. Even though it was my fault for being late, God in His tender mercy had answered my prayer thought and worked everything for my good. Amazing! Sometimes we think we have to be in a special place or posture to pray when the truth is that prayer is a spiritual connection between us and God. God hears and answers our prayer thoughts for He loves us and gives us everything that we need for living and godliness through Jesus Christ. The secret is to pray according to the will of God. I had an opportunity to attend a different conference that day but the Holy Spirit led me to the one I attended. It was a seemingly small act of obedience but it mattered to God. What is God calling you to do?

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