



# Life Doesn't Always Move at Our Preferred Pace

with Paul Bullard

## DISCUSSION

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1. How involved were your parents in your life when you were young? Did they seem to take a genuine interest in your activities, joys, and struggles? Did one parent shoulder the majority of the child-rearing work? How do you think that involvement—or lack of it—shaped you into the person you are now?
2. As Psalm 68 says, “God sets the lonely in families.” Did you ever go through a period of your life when you felt alone or isolated, and found a sense of belonging with an adoptive “family” to whom you weren’t biologically related. How did you find your way to them? What did they provide in your life that you were most in need of during that time? *Psalm 68:6*
3. In the gospel of Matthew, Jesus instructs us to take up our cross and follow Him—but as Paul Bullard mentions, that cross is different for everyone. Talk about what you feel like your “cross” is, with the understanding that it doesn’t have to be a burden, rather a calling. How did you come to that realization? If you don’t feel like you’ve found your cross yet, do you have a supportive group of friends or relatives who can guide you toward it? *Matthew 16:24-26*

4. What was the time in your life when you felt most frustrated waiting for something? What did that wait feel like, and what advice did people offer you during that time? In what ways did you change as a person over the course of that wait? Did you change in certain ways that made you more capable of handling or appreciating the thing you were waiting for when it finally arrived? *Psalm 37:7*
  
5. What's a talent you have that not a lot of people know about? When did you discover you had that ability, and what have you done (or are doing now) to fine-tune it? How could you use that talent to help others and glorify God?