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BEING A PIECE OF THE PUZZLE

We often pray for God to show us his plan and tell Him that whatever it is we will do. Then, when things start to change around us, we wonder what in the world is going on.

I will illustrate it this way. Have you ever worked on a 500-piece puzzle? I have done several. I always start by finding the pieces that make up the straight edge. They are easier to find than the rest of them. You lay them out and connect them together as you can. Then you look at pieces that have common color and sort them out. Little by little the puzzle starts taking shape, but it doesn't happen immediately. You have to work it piece by piece.

The same is true when God is given permission to bring change into our life. We may not understand what is going on when things seem all mixed up, as we yield our lives to the master puzzle solver, then God starts putting things together so that "whole puzzle" will come together. Little by little, as we permit Him, He will start rearranging things in our lives so they "fit" together.

Often, a piece in a puzzle is so much like another piece that we put it into the wrong place. Then things do not come together. We may have to look at each piece carefully again to determine our mistake. When we find it, and remove it, then find the right piece, the puzzle starts coming together again. In life there is the same application. There are those that try to fit in where something is missing but find out that that's not where they belong! We often think something goes one way, but God has a different plan. When we realize it, we repent and allow Him to show where things fit together.

I have bought puzzles (mostly used) that had a piece missing, and you don't realize it until you are almost finished putting it together. A missing puzzle piece is a frustration. You can't finish it. In life, there are missing puzzle pieces also. There are those that are the missing piece in someone else's puzzle. By not yielding to God's plan, we may keep their life's puzzle from coming together.

Then there is the mystery puzzle which is the body of Christ. We could compare it to a gigantic puzzle. Unlike a man-made puzzle, the pieces of this puzzle are constantly growing as each soul is added to the kingdom of God through salvation. God makes each of us a unique piece fitting into the place made for us and us alone. We make the puzzle come together when we join ourselves with others. This unity brings strength to the whole puzzle! This is the way the body of Christ should be working. When you find your place then stay there until God chooses to move you. If you don't stay where God has placed you, then the whole puzzle becomes weak and can come apart.

Whichever type of puzzle that you find yourself in, whether it be in your life's puzzle, the body of Christ's puzzle or any other puzzle, remember it takes time and patience to put things together properly. Take each "puzzle piece" of life and treasure it as you put it together! Be blessed