

To Shelby Reynolds
June 19, 2007

Shelby our families have been blessed
from the day you were born.
We are blessed because of your inner
peace and strength in the Lord.
YOU bless us by the steadfast calmness
from God you show during the storms
of life. I think of Jesus asleep in the
boat when all the disciplines were going
nuts during the storm. You show the
character traits of Jesus in the way you
center your Faith and attention on God
and do not rock this way or that in a
storm.

In Max Lucado's "Grace for the Moment"
he wrote...

When we submit to God's plans, we can
trust our desires. Our assignment is found
at the intersection of God's plan and our
pleasures. What do you love to do?
What brings you joy? What gives you a
sense of satisfaction?

Each of us has been made to serve God in
a unique way...

The longings of your heart,
then are not incidental;
they are critical messages.

The desires of your heart are not to be
ignored; they are to be consulted.

As the wind turns the weather vane, so
God uses your passions to turn your life.

God is too gracious to ask you to do
something you hate.

I was thinking of vacation bible school when I read this... You looked so sad... Shelby you have many gifts from God and if you are not in the right place you are not getting the blessing or giving a blessing... You are a people pleaser... You are not alone, many people are... myself included... but the word of God says, we are to "Love the Lord with all our heart." It is ok to tell people, "I will pray about it and get back with you", when you are asked to do something you are not sure about. God will help them find someone else while you are praying.

I want to encourage you in two things that I see you light up with the Love of the Lord when you are doing them.... One is art, the other is photography...

From Aunt Susan Middleton-Mathis