

*"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it." [Isaiah 55:8-11]*

This Isaiah text is one that I reflect on from time to time, and it is one that has given me great comfort in the midst of uncertainty. As Christians, we encounter much uncertainty in this life. We feel gentle "nudgings" through the Holy Spirit to do something that is uncomfortable or scary. Chaos happens in this life that makes us wonder what God is up to. Loved ones die unexpectedly (even though we know death is a part of life). Conflict divides once inseparable people. Plans that once seemed carved in stone, crumble before our eyes. What once was thought as a "no brainer" turns out to be not the case.

With so much uncertainty, what kind of foundation do we stand upon? Well, that is easy: God's Word. When we stand on a foundation other than the Word of God, we are going to be shaken to the point of crumbling, because there is nothing that can stand against this world other than God's Word. *"My ways are not your ways and my thoughts are not your thoughts"*. What a comforting thought as it tells me that God is in control. It also tells me that nothing surprises God; that God has everything figured out and knowing that (and believing that) gives great comfort.

God's ways and thoughts may not make sense but God is God and we are not. We cannot possibly know the full scope of God's will. Therefore, all that is left to do is trust in an awesome God who loves us so much that He would send Jesus to die for our sins and then rise to New Life FOR YOU and FOR ME. God's ways and thoughts are not our ways and thoughts, and praise be to God for that. May God's will be done in your lives and may you have the faith to hang on for the ride; praising God always and forever, Amen.