

“Where Is It?”

Having just moved from Florida back to Ohio, I can't begin to tell you how many times I asked myself "Where the heck did I put that?" I started packing at least a month or so before I actually moved, and found to my dismay that many of the things I had packed were things I still needed to use. From the time I started packing until I arrived in Ohio and got everything unpacked, my life felt very unsettled!

I'm sure we've all heard the old saying "there's a place for everything, and everything in its place." I can tell you for a fact, when I got everything unpacked and stowed away in Ohio, everything was NOT in the right place from the start! Even three weeks after being here, I'm still tweaking things in almost every room, and from room to room until I feel I've arranged most things to their most convenient and efficient spot - for now.

My experiences remind me what God says in 1 Corinthians 12:18 and 20, but let me use v. 20 first: *"As it is, there are many parts, but one body...in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be."* God has a place for all of us to serve in the body of Christ, but we need to be gifted in the area we serve; I have served in various ministries, but you'll never hear me sing! So just as God brings order to the church, I am trying to bring proper order to my new place.

But here's something to think about - we've all heard countless stories about how at times certain people "just happen" to be in the right place at the right time, but I don't for a second believe that's just dumb luck or coincidence - I believe God had all of it worked out before any of it happened. I believe all of us can look back at unusual situations or circumstances and realize that whatever it was, we just know it was a "God thing!"

I am a firm believer in Php. 2:13: *"...for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose."* (NIV) and from the Message Bible: *"That energy is God's energy, an energy deep within you, God himself willing and working at what will give him the most pleasure."* You might find yourself in a place, a situation, or a position you don't understand, and it could well be that God is simply rearranging something in your life to accomplish His purpose.

I love what Eph. 1:11 says: *"In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will..."* God is working in and through all of us to bring us into conformity with His divine plan and purpose for our lives - for HIS pleasure, not ours! Unlike me, God never displaces anyone! He knows exactly where we're at, what we're doing, and why we're there. Relax! Let go and let God! Amen!