



FAITH matters

June 8, 2026

Life is a Journey?

Isn't it true that life is a journey for everyone? Even for the most cynical, secular, non-believing person, life is a journey. From birth to death. From cradle to grave.

For me, I am happiest when I have a guide rather than a map for my journeys. Quite often my guide is Jesus. He says to me, "Move over, Pendexter. I'm in charge now." It isn't often perhaps, but when I do sit back and relax, and let Jesus be in charge, it makes all the difference in how I live. I would rather have a guide than a map.

You may also choose your expectations for your journey. Do you want safety or adventure? If we want safety, we probably should just stay where we are and not move. As you know, Helen Keller was blind and deaf from birth, yet she became one of the Christian saints of our time. She wrote, "There is no such thing as security. It doesn't exist."

Life is either an adventure or it is nothing. If you believe this and you're ready for adventure, God has one ahead for you. God has a dream, a destiny for you. It won't be easy. You will have

problems. But on the journey Jesus will be with you. And with Jesus, you'll have adventure.

Now just to be safe, I leave you with this story. Bob Zuppke was a football coach at the University of Illinois when Knute Rockney was at Notre Dame. Like Rockne, Bob Zuppke was a master of the half-time pep talk. In one particular game, the Fighting Illini were woefully behind at the half. Zuppke knew he had to give one of his dramatic speeches to enliven the dispirited and lack-luster squad. And he did. As he neared the conclusion of his half-time talk, his voice became louder, his pleas more dramatic, and finally he pointed to the door at the other end of the locker room, saying, "And now let's go through that door and on to victory!" The team rose as one man, tears welling in their eyes, their throats choked with emotion, and they ran right into the university swimming pool!

Now I will feel responsible if you follow my advice, and you decide to launch out and run right into Lake Michigan in your Sunday best. So don't. Please! But let us agree, shall we, to follow our God-given dreams. Amen.

~Written by Rev. Pamela Pendexter

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