

AUGUST 5

“WHATEVER YOU’RE FACING HAS BEEN DESIGNED BY GOD FOR A PURPOSE.”

READ

Matthew 11:28-30

Jesus said, “Take My yoke upon you,” but we hear, “Take this heavy thing and do the best you can.” By not understanding the farm culture of Jesus’ day, we miss out on a great lesson and a great blessing. You see, a yoke was never intended for one; a yoke was made for two. The yoke was designed to put an older, experienced, stronger ox on one side, and a younger, inexperienced, weaker ox on the other side. The old one carries the weight, teaching the young one how to walk in stride. As the young ox matures, he learns from the older and becomes stronger. So when Jesus said, “Take My yoke upon you,” He wasn’t throwing it all on you. He was saying that He’s been down this road before. “Get in here with Me and learn from Me, and I’ll lead you one row at a time until this task is finished.” What are you yoked to today? The yoke of sin — greed, lust, judgment, selfishness, anger, pride — leads to death. It is deceitfully light at first, but is a heavy and hard yoke. Submit to Christ, learn from Him. Walk with Him. He’ll lead you to life. His yoke is easy and His burden is light.

PRAY

Lord, I want to join up with You. In my working and weariness, with my burdens and brokenness, I come to You. I take Your yoke and find rest for my soul.

From August 5, 2007