



REFLECTIONS

October 14, 2018

**For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you because I am fearfully and
wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful,
I know that full well.**

Psalm 139:13-14

Your Chapter

In my youth, the adventures of the *Hardy Boys*, Frank and Joe, headed my reading interest. Nancy Drew became their female counterpart among the youthful heroes of their day. Today's fictional heroes may be recognized in the characters of James Bond and Jack Ryan, but all these characters are only creations in the minds of the novelists who envisioned them. Imagination established their environment, their skillful craft, their circumstances, the challenges to overcome, problems to solve, and solutions to find.

Novelists create their characters in their minds long before committing them to paper; but in the course of bringing them to life, I am told, those characters almost always take some unplanned turns. As the story unfolds, those turns uncover character flaws the writer hadn't expected, reveal emotional traits as the story's relationships develop, and perform acts of kindness when situations are in need of them. But most turns lead the heroes into ditches that leave the novelist challenged to pull them out by the novel's end.

Now, can't you envision your own life being created much the same way. God is the author. Thousands of years have gone into writing the *Book of Life*. Presently, He is working on a special chapter entitled _____ (*insert Your Name.*) In it, you are fearfully and wonderfully made, filled with blessing, bounded in beauty, excited by adventure, and endowed with a skill to fulfill your life's purpose by the chapter's end. But the manuscript is littered with escapades of your own making. Mostly they have led to the ditches you have driven yourself into including the one you find yourself crawling from today. God provides a way out, but it's your choice to make.

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. (John 3:16 NKJV)

God chose you for a purpose—to bear fruit. To fulfill it, He tells us only to believe in him. Then He asks us to "...go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you..." (Matthew 28:19-20)

You are wonderfully made with skill to do it. So, who knows? Your chapter in the *Book of Life* may tell of a hero who used their skill to save lives to the glory of God.

You are the light of the world,

Richard +

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Your comments are welcomed and encouraged. Richard may be reached at richard@reflectingthesavior.org.