

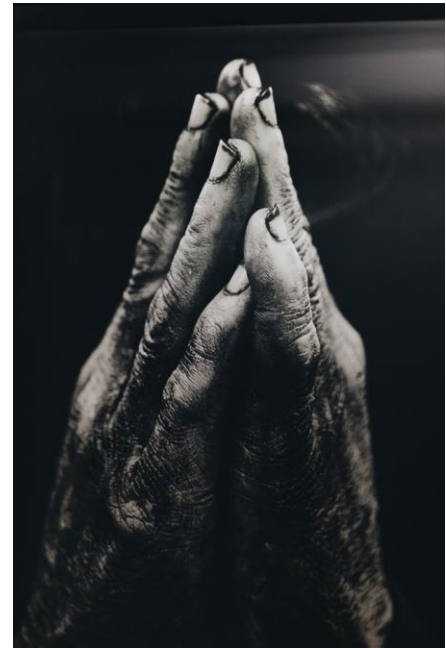
Faith in the Midst of Fear

by Jules Christian

I have always been a night owl. One of my favorite things as a child was going with my mom in the middle of the night to the 24-hour pancake house. On occasion, she stoked my need for adventure, and her need of respite, by sneaking ever so quietly out of the house, not waking my siblings, to go with her to get some breakfast.

I remember so vividly how she would leave the house, looking all around, checking to make sure there was no danger or intruders as we got in the car, then locked the doors and said a prayer. Then as if it were the middle of the day, she drove from our dark rural house in the county into the city. While she was careful of her surroundings, she didn't let that stop her from moving in the dark.

So often, we fear what we cannot see. Whether it is literal darkness, the uncertainty of the future, a diagnosis, an unhealthy relationship or a world-wide pandemic, not knowing what will happen, not being able to see the things around us can come with apprehension, anxiety and fear. Being able to face my fear and keep moving in faith is a lesson that I have needed many times in my life. In the midst of our fear, in the midst of our anxiety, we must hold onto what we know, who we know and what will come on the other side of our fear. It is not easy, but it is well worth it!



What is it in your life that you cannot see that makes you afraid?

How are you comforting yourself in your fear?

Where is God in your fear?

How can you take a small step towards your desired goal, even while being afraid?

God, thank you that you are with us in the midst of our uncertainty and fear. Thank you for the wisdom and courage to face those things in our life, and take a step of faith, knowing that you are with us. Amen