

On the Way to the Andes

Elisabeth Elliot is a Christian author and speaker whose first husband, Jim Elliot, was killed in 1956 while attempting to make missionary contact with the Auca (now known as Huaorani) of eastern Ecuador.

She later spent two years as a missionary to the tribe members who killed her husband. Returning to the United States after many years in South America, she became widely known as the author of more than 20 books and as a speaker in constant demand.



In *A Slow and Certain Light*, Elliot tells of two adventurers who stopped by to see her, all loaded with equipment for the rain forest east of the Andes.

They sought no advice, just a few phrases to converse with the Indians.

She writes: “Sometimes we come to God as the two adventurers came to me – confident and, we think, well-informed and well-equipped. But has it occurred to us that with all our accumulation of stuff, something is missing?”

Elliot suggests that we often ask God for too little. “We know what we need – a yes or no answer, please, to a simple question. Or perhaps a road sign. Something quick and easy to point the way.

“What we really ought to have,” she adds, “is the Guide Himself. Maps, road signs, a few useful phrases are good things, but infinitely better is Someone who has been there before and knows the way.”

Associates in Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home understand this principle very well. Serving our residents, with a panorama of personalities and care needs, is a demanding responsibility.

Prayer seeking direction from the Guide – and the One who made our residents and we ourselves – is always the best resort.

– Beecher Hunter