

THOSE DESERTS IN LIFE

Have you ever experienced deserts in your life?

Ever felt you were wandering in a wilderness, surrounded by problems, hemmed in by distress?

Virtually all of us have been there at one time or another.

Dr. David Jeremiah, author and senior pastor of Shadow Mountain Community Church in El Cajon, California, raises those questions in his book *Turning Points: Moments of Decision in the Presence of God*. He answers them by telling the story of Charles Weigle, an itinerant evangelist who enjoyed traveling and preaching, despite the rigors of the road.

His wife, however, grew disillusioned with her frequently absent husband. One day, Weigle returned home to find the note: "Charlie, I've been a fool. I've done without a lot of things ... From here on out, I'm getting all I can of what the world owes me. I know you'll continue to be a fool for Jesus, but for me it's goodbye."

Weigle was stunned and depression swept over him like a tidal wave. One day, sitting on the porch of a cottage in Florida, he contemplated suicide. "Your work is finished," said an inner voice. "No one cares."

But he related how another voice pierced his gloom: "Charlie, I haven't forgotten you. I care for you."

Instantly, Weigle was on his knees, rededicating himself to Christ, Dr. Jeremiah wrote.

Sometime later, Weigle penned the words to the well-known gospel song: "No one ever cared for me like Jesus; there's no other friend so kind as He. No one else could take the sin and darkness from me; O how much He cared for me."

So if you find yourself in a desert today, remember that Christ cares for you, too. That assurance can change your day.

Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you (1 Peter 5:7).

– Beecher Hunter

