

Peeping Calm

The Serenity of Sneak Peeks

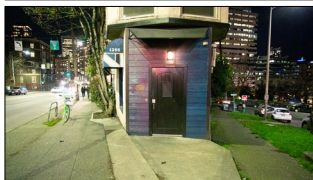
October 26, 2025



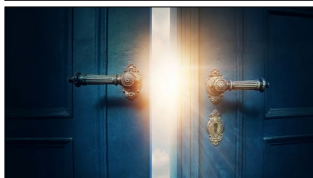
Today we're examining *our everyday lives to catch the encouraging glimpses of God's good!* Cuz *earth* may be our home *away from home* – but *while* we're here, God allows some *hints* of Heaven to break *through* – to raise our spirits with a sneak peek of our *fulfilling future*. So, the question is: **Are you receiving what God's revealing?**



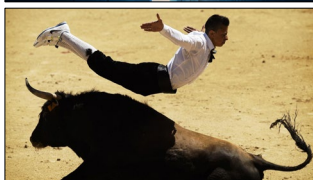
Cuz **with the distracting difficulties of daily life, we can walk right past them without even noticing they were there.** In fact, they can get hidden in *plain* sight if we don't keep our eyes *peeled* for the *opportunities*. The *same* way I had walked past *this* door in Seattle *many* times back when I was a bartending *musician* who often *gigged* in the city on the weekends – until someone *told me* it was the sort-of-secret entrance to an incredible craft cocktail bar. And once inside, there was a *magical* menu of *strange* and *inspiring* flavors that just *changed* how I saw other "*normal*" pubs. And after *that*, I was invited to another one where you had to *text* a secret number before they'd *open* the *door*. But when you got in – *same thing* – an *inspiring* experience for those who were *willing* to *seek* the *subtle* entrances to something *extraordinary!* And before you get upset that I'm comparing *speakeasies* to *spiritual opportunities* – you should know the guy who got me into *these pubs* is the *same* guy who got me to go to church... so just remember that the Lord works in mysterious ways!



And God may not *like* every choice we make down here – but make no mistake – **He can speak through every choice we make down here!**



And I'm telling you *this* story cuz the way *that* works in our *worldly life* – is the *same* way it works in our *spiritual walk*; **your life is full of unassuming opportunities for an enticing taste of the Holy Spirit.** We just have to have the *eyes* and *ears* to *anticipate* and *appreciate* what God's trying to *communicate!* Which is why we're *encouraged* to:



Taste and see that the LORD is good; – Psalms 34:8 NIV

Remember a couple years ago when we talked about why people yell Olé at things like *bullfights*? You remember what it means? *God*. The word comes from *Allah*. Cuz down *here*, **when we see something so spectacular that it seems beyond this world, we suspect it was a sneak peek of something supernatural.** Which *it is*, cuz in *this* world, *errors* and *entropy* are *natural* – and persistent *perfection* is how we describe Heaven *alone*. So, God gives us these exciting *glimpses* of the *coming* world to remind us that it's worth *waiting for!* Cuz each *OLÉ moment* is meant to just be an *appetizer* that keeps us hungry *and* happy until we're *ready* and willing for the full measure of God's full joy!

But until then, living in **the Ole' spirit leads us to the Holy Spirit!** Cuz with every spectacular *sunset* we share with a *spouse*, every heartwarming *hug* we receive from a *friend*, and every awe-inspiring *meal* we taste with our *tongue* – **God is providing a momentary peephole into how good it could be if we were living in heavenly harmony.** And we're talking *everything* from that time you perfectly *parallel parked* to the *joke* you told at work that made everyone *laugh* until they *cried* – they're *all* secret *entrances* to a sneak a *peek* at how *good every moment* of our heavenly home *will be!*



Cuz **Earthly pleasures were never meant to permanently satisfy**, but only to *suggest* and *awaken* our higher desire for *eternal* fulfillment. And each *glimpse* of the godly ought to *remind* and *encourage* us that living **our best life means accepting the best is yet to come.** So, *adjust* your eyes:



Take delight in the *Lord*, [by looking for *Him* in every *earthly joy*] and He will give you the [true] desires of your heart [in the *end*]. – Psalms 37:4 NIV

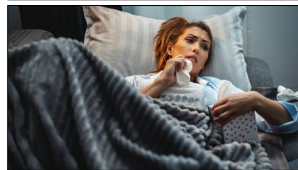


So, *truly* ask **is that what you're doing with your life?** Are you approaching every moment as an opportunity to *taste* and *see* that the *Lord* is good? Or is your mind set on seeing all of the reasons to believe *life* is *bad*? It would be such a *shame* to walk right by something God *specifically* built to give you a boost when you need it most! So, to prevent that *travesty*, we're gonna *practice* this *perspective* by identifying *potential* peepholes.

Cuz **Scripture provides quite a list of promises about our future that we can taste in the present** – and when we keep *those* promises close to our *hearts*, the previews are easier to catch with our *eyes!*



And our first promise is a doozy: **you'll be reunited with Jesus.** And if you want to get *excited* about that *reality*, there's *plenty* of sneak peeks to give a small sense of that satisfaction. You ever had a family member take a job that takes them *away* for a season – like commercial *fishing*, construction *contracting*, or being *deployed* overseas? Then you know it's *hard* to handle their absence – and even as it *normalizes*, you never stop *missing* them. Until that day they pull into the *driveway* and your heart just *jumps* out of your body as an emotional *reflex* to the reunion. Well, *that's* just a *tiny* taste of how it'll *feel* when *Jesus* fulfills *this* promise:



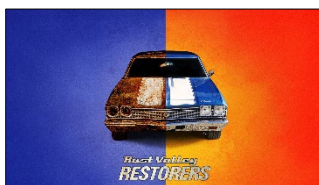
I will come back and take you to be with Me that you *also may be where I am.* – John 14:3 NIV

So, whether it's *mom*, *dad*, *husband*, or *wife* – every day that you're excited to see *someone* pull in your *driveway*, remember it's a *fraction* of a fraction of the *feeling* we'll feel once *Jesus* is in sight!

And *second*, you're promised a future where **you'll defeat death.** And if you want a sneak peek at *that* feeling, think about the last time you were so *sick* and *tired* you couldn't get out of *bed* – or *worse*, you couldn't stop hugging the *toilet!* But *then* remember the morning *after* the flu finally *broke* and you awoke and thought, **"I can breathe; I can move; I'm alive again!"** Well, we're told:

The dead will be raised imperishable – 1 Corinthians 15:52 NIV

Physical healing can feel like *resurrection rehearsal* cuz we're meant to eagerly anticipate the comfort and joy of *eternal life* with an *immortal body!* So, see *relief* from *sickness* as a peek at *heavenly health.*



Third, **you'll be made new.** Anybody binge those *restoration* shows, where a junkyard *car* becomes a showroom *beauty* or a fixer-upper is *stripped* to the *studs* and rebuilt into something glorious? I've got my own episode going; eighteen months into a bathroom remodel, but – I'm finally starting to see the deep satisfaction in a *finished* restoration! Well,

He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making *everything* new!" – Revelation 21:5 NIV

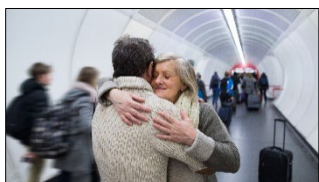
If *human* hands can renew what's falling apart, just imagine what God's hands can do with you! So let every before-and-after story raise your expectations for a flawlessly functional future.



Fourth, **you'll stop suffering.** You remember being a kid and having those days where everything just went *wrong* at school – and you were so sad until Mom met you at the door with a hug and a snack so you plop down for an episode of *Saved by the Bell*. Well that's a preview of how being in the presence of peace just cures crying; and *we're* promised:

'[God] will wipe every tear from [His people's] eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain – Revelation 21:4 NIV

And if imperfect parents can bring that kind of comfort for an afternoon, we should be *excited* to experience how the arms of our *perfect* Parent will *erase all anxiety* on the calm couch of *eternity*.



Fifth, **you'll be reunited with loved ones.** I think all of us have experienced how *airport* hugs feel different – and that's because *absence* makes the heart grow *fonder* – but it also makes *reunion* sweeter. And every departure we endure proves what both *Joni Mitchell* and the band *Cinderella* put it, "**You don't know what you've got 'til it's gone.**"

[But we're told] [All believers] will be with the Lord forever – 1 Thessalonians 4:17 NIV

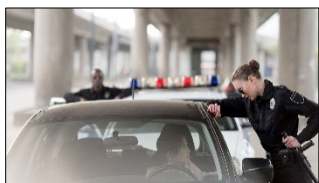
So, when earthly reunions make us weep with joy, we should see it as a reminder that eternity will be one *endless*, tear-wiping *embrace*. And when you feel the *weight* of missing someone now – don't let the ache lie to you; let it lead you – it's not the end of the story; it's just the *dark* we experience *before* every *dawn* – that trains our heart to trust *everything good is never gone!*



Sixth, **you'll clear up your confusion.** You know that *moment* when you're watching a movie and feel like you got *lost* – until some *twist* is *revealed* and *suddenly* everything makes *sense*? Well, *that* kind of "*click*" happens *all the time* to *remind* you that *all* the random details of *this* life are eventually going to come *together* in your big moment of *clarity*:

For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; **[but on the other side,]** *then* we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; *then I shall know fully* – 1 Corinthians 13:12 NIV

If a *human* writers can flip *confusion* into *clarity* with *one* reveal, how much *more* will *God* connect every piece of *your life* when you see the *full* picture face to face? So, see every '*Aha*' moment as the *reassuring echo* of the *true* Author's ability to give you the *satisfying* explanation you always *wanted*.



And seventh, you're promised **you'll see justice served**. There's a reason the true-crime craze has taken over TV – and a bit part is how much we love the feeling when new DNA finally exonerates the innocent and names the guilty; the same way we crave cops catching the car speeding past you and celebrate their siren slowing them down!

[So, don't worry] [God] will judge the world in righteousness – Psalm 9:8 NKJ

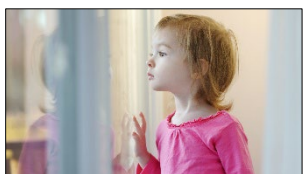
And every time *you* feel the fulfillment of truth *prevailing*, you should *stop* and *savor* how awesome it'll *be* to live *full-time* in a world where God *exposes* and *ends* all evil *forever*. Cuz *roadside* accountability and *courtroom* justice is just a *taste* of a world that is under the perfect *rule* of a perfect *Ruler*. And *that* should free us all to *lower* our *defenses* and *vulnerably be* our *true* selves.



And lastly, you're promised **you'll get more than you deserve**. You ever win a scratch ticket, get a refund you didn't expect, or open an incredible gift? Those moments are glimpses of the awesome feeling of unearned rewards – the way trust-fund kids can be born into billions that they get their whole lives to just try and spend. Well, good news:

[God] has given us... an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. [But don't expect more than a taste yet, cuz] This inheritance is kept in Heaven for you – 1 Peter 1:3–4 NIV

If you've tasted the goodness of an unearned gift and seen how earthly kids can inherit a fortune by birth – you should be able to project how excited you should feel about the reality of an *infinite, eternal* inheritance! So, celebrate every *birthday, Christmas, and raffle win* as a *puny preview* of how *electrifying* it will be when *our adoption* through Christ comes with *keys* to the *whole Kingdom*!



[Cuz] [We] who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, [aka the temporary tastes of future promises] groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship ... For in this hope we were saved. But ... if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently. In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness.– Romans 8:23-26 NIV

So **are you letting the Spirit seize every opportunity to empower your patience?** Are you *seeing* every small satisfying *second* as a *door* to *explore* and *expand* your perception of future *potential*? You *should be*! Cuz **earthly joy is deliberately designed to make you hungry for Heaven!** They're the firstfruit *first course* to *awaken* your appetite for the *whole spiritual feast*! So, don't let them *slip by* as a *passing fancy*! *Dwell* in them and *delight* in them!

Cuz **even the smallest experiences present us with an opportunity for faith to flourish – if we're receptive to receive**. But, every day we have to *choose* how we see things: **are our experiences meaningless randomness or meaningful messages?** And if you want to taste and see that the Lord is behind all the good – well, God says you gotta *seek* if you wanna *find*! So why not use *this life* to call that bluff? Why not look *closer* at every ordinary minute to see if it *might* hide a *secret door*. And if you catch a *glimpse* of something *good* – why not *press* your eye to the *peephole*, and treat *that* peek as the inspiring *preview* God *created* it to be. Cuz every “Holy moly” *Ole’* moment you *experience* is one more *Holy Spirit sample* **meant** to make you *more excited* for a future that's *out of this world*!