

Not Safe

Me: God, what does it mean to be safe?

God: What have you thought it meant?

Me: I thought – in the beginning – that it meant nothing bad would happen. But then life brought hard things that felt like bad went right past your throne and crushed me.

God: Is that when you learned that hard doesn't always mean bad?

Me: Eventually, yes. But I still forget this.

God: Some of the hard things are bad though right?

Me: They are. That's why I wonder what safe really means. What does it mean to be safe in the arms of God? What does it mean when the Psalmist proclaims that no disaster will come near his tent?

God: It's not about being safe **from**. You are not safe **from** troubles or pain or loss. You are safe **in** the truth that suffering will not win, will not destroy your beautiful soul. You are safe **in** my love, my care, my power to bring beauty from anything, my grace to uphold you and make a way for you every time.

Me: I'm thinking about that scripture that reminds us not to be surprised when suffering comes...it's a given.

God: Not to be surprised, yes – but overwhelmed and flailing till you get your footing...that's human and part of the journey.