

My thoughts #39

December 29, 2023

The weeks leading up to Christmas have felt disheartening. I have felt adversity. I have struggled to feel the spirit, or the fun and excitement of Christmas. I have had so many feelings of highs and lows which is so unlike me. Christmas has always been my favorite time of year. In fact, I have a Christmas tree that is in my bedroom that stays up all year round! I love Christmas. Each day my heart has felt heavy as I have smiled and talked to my grandkids about Christmas. They were so excited. I have not felt like planning all the usual events.

So... I planned them anyway. Dr Suess night was great. The kids loved it. A friend offered to come as Santa. We had Who Hash, Roast Beast, Green Eggs and Ham, Poodles with Noodles, Nizzard and Bezzlenut Stew, etc. Everyone dressed up in character, the children each wanted to tell me who they were.



A few days before Christmas, Ray, Kartor, Raymie and I went to Arizona to see our sweet daughter Alyssa and her family. It was so nice to be with her. Her husband, Morgan had the day off so we got to visit with him. And of course, cuddle Greyson! It was wonderful to be with Alyssa. I miss her so much, all of my time/ moments with her are precious. This was the highlight of my Christmas season.



Raymie and Kartor

Christmas Day was nice. I love the children. My own, my grandchildren, your children, other people's children. I love how precious they are! Clarity's got a new Pooh bear outfit. She loves showing anyone the pocket!





Brody and Leidy's family



Iron and Joy

Each day that I have felt a heavy heart this season I have just got up and done the things that I should. AND... they have all been really nice.

As I have pondered this season why I have felt this way, there aren't really reasons to it at all. Sometimes there is just adversity. Satan just actually wants us to be unhappy. Something doesn't have to be wrong. He just wants our misery. Sometimes we need to just be steady in doing the things we should, even when we don't really feel like it. As I have done each of our traditions, I have enjoyed them. Not doing them wouldn't have made things feel better.

After Christmas we had a campfire and burned the Christmas tree from our adventures a few weeks ago. The kids loved it. We made tinfoil dinners and roasted marshmallows. Again, it was nice. I think we may even start a new tradition!

I have been steady throughout the holiday season in doing the things that I know will bring joy to my family. In doing so I have felt better myself. I attended company events when I didn't feel like it, and they were nice. I attended church events and they were nice. I attended all family events and they were super nice. Everything that I did throughout the season, I just tried to be steady. I was able to enjoy all my children and grandchildren enjoying the season.



New Testament

1 Corinthians 15:58

58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

Book of Mormon

Alma 38:2

2 And now, my son, I trust that I shall have great joy in you, because of your steadiness and your faithfulness unto God; for as you have commenced in your youth to look to the Lord your God , even so I hope that you will continue in keeping his commandments; for blessed is he that endure to the end.

I love our Savior Jesus Christ.

With love,
Leslie

