

This is the Day...Monday

May 2, 2022

This is the Day

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord. Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” (Jeremiah 29:11)

New Year’s eve, 1976. I pulled into the driveway at my friend’s house driving my 1971 MGB. It had a convertible top, chrome bumpers, and was a beautiful yellow/orange color. And I had it shining like a new penny. I was a righteous dude. My friend, David, was having a New Year’s eve party for all the youth at our church. As all my church friends gathered, we began eating light snacks, listening to music, and playing games. Everyone was excited about watching the ball drop at midnight. The Spirit and Coca cola was flowing freely, and the music was loud. They were playing all the great songs of the day. Like ABBA, “You are my dancing queen, young and sweet only seventeen.” Or a new group named Bread, “I want to make it with you. I really think that we could make it girl.” Or a young, unknown singer named James Taylor, “Oh, I’ve seen fire and rain. I’ve seen sunny days that I thought would never end.” It was a great time to be with old friends. And, as it turned out, it was a time when I made a new friend.

During the party, as I spent time with different friends from my church, I noticed a new girl in the room. She was part of the “younger crowd” but, something about her made me want to talk with her. As we spent some time together, I mostly noticed her beautiful smile with a big dimple on her left cheek. And she had the biggest eyes I had ever seen. After sharing some snacks together, I asked her if she would like to see my car. She agreed and we sat in my 1971 MGB listening to music on the radio. I’m not sure how impressed she was with my car but, at that point, I did not care. I was sitting beside the prettiest girl in Gaston County. As the radio played “Nadia’s Theme,” I took her hand in mine. This was the day that I found Ronda Russell.

Sometimes life can become a rut and we can seem to string together days filled with the “same old thing.” We get so focused on our responsibilities and agenda that we lose sight of what God is up to. We forget that God is constantly working behind the scenes to direct our path and lead us to the place where we belong. On this day, God has plans for your life. Plans for you to prosper. Plans to keep you safe. Plans to give you hope and a future. God is always at work to fulfill His will in your life. His will is always accomplished. Thankfully His will does not depend on you but His will always includes you. This is the day that God’s will was fulfilled for me. Because May 2nd is the day that Ronda Russell became Ronda Howe.

On this day which God has given you, take a break from your same old thing and pay attention to what God is doing in your life. He has a plan, and it is possible that this is the day.