



Bullets (#+.)

# The Life You Didn't Plan

Week 25 — June 18–24

Readings: 1 Chronicles 29, 2 Chronicles 1–13, Romans 4–8, Psalms 110–113, Proverbs 16–17

There is a version of your life you can still see clearly. The marriage by a certain age. The kids who would grow up to love the Lord. The career that should have arrived by now. You did not ask for much. You asked for the normal, good things. And somewhere along the way the picture and the reality stopped matching, and you have been carrying the gap ever since.

Some of us have carried it so long it has curdled. We would not say we are angry at God. But we have gone quiet toward Him. Hardened in a corner of the heart we keep in the dark. Bitter in a way we have learned to call realism.

This week's readings identify this quiet hardening. It is not the name most of us would have chosen.

*"Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall." (Proverbs 16:18)*

## The Pride You'd Never Call Pride

We hear "pride" and picture the loud kind. Rehoboam in 2 Chronicles 10, swaggering in front of the elders, bragging that his little finger is thicker than his father's waist, rejecting wise counsel and tearing a kingdom in half to prove a point. That's the version we can spot easily, mostly because it's the version we see in someone else.

But Proverbs is hunting something quieter. "The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps" (16:9). "The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the Lord" (16:33). Underneath every plan we make is a question we often ignore: