

Root Group Discussion for Week of Nov. 5

SOME THINGS NEVER CHANGE - JOSHUA 1:1-5

What would be the impact of these changes Israel faced and how are they like what we face today?

From wanderers to settlers, nomads to warriors, and refugees to invaders.

THERE WAS NO CHANGE IN THE PLAN v2

How can we determine what is God's plan for us today?

What are some plans God has for today?

THERE WAS NO CHANGE THE PROMISE vv2b-4

What promises, or passages, encourage your heart?

THERE WAS NO CHANGE IN THE PRESENCE v5

Compare the two versions of "So Sent I You."

Find and read the story of why it was re-written.

How does this story help you understand the difference between having a knowledge God is present and really knowing He is?

The text of *So Send I You*, sometimes called the finest missionary hymn of the twentieth century, was written by 22-year-old E. Margaret Clarkson.

Born in Saskatchewan, Margaret Clarkson grew up in Toronto. Jobs were so scarce that she had to spend seven years in the far north of Ontario, first in a lumber camp, then in a gold-mining area, before returning to teach for 31 years in Toronto, retiring in 1973.

In the north, she says, I experienced deep loneliness of every kind—mental, cultural and particularly, spiritual—I found no Bible-teaching church fellowship, and only one or two isolated Christians, in those years.

Studying the Word one night and thinking of the loneliness of my situation, I came to John 20, and the words '*So send I you.*' Because of a physical disability I could never go to the mission field, and this was where He had sent me. I had written verse all my life, so it was natural for me to express my thoughts in a poem.

Some years later I realized that the poem was really very one-sided; it told only of the sorrows and privations of the missionary call and none of its triumphs. I wrote another song in the same rhythm so that verses could be used interchangeably, setting forth the glory and the hope of the missionary calling. This was published in 1963. Above all I wish to be a biblical writer, and the second hymn is the more biblical one.

http://www.tanbible.com/tol_sng/sng_sosendiyou.htm