

Chosen by Jeanetta Chrystie

“Even as in His love He chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world...” – Ephesians 1:4 (AMP)

It’s a nerve-wracking experience when a downsizing, merger, and reorganization happens at our place of employment. I remember a summer job that I loved. I shared an office with another technical writer as we each worked on teams to write on different computer software manuals. Despite the long hours and eating three meals a day at my desk, I loved the energy-charged atmosphere. The people were busy but friendly. The on-site cafeteria offerings were delicious experiments in teaching my palate to enjoy exotic flavors.

But it was only a summer job, and I had my PhD to finish – I’d been ADB (all but dissertation) for 3 years. So when my project was completed, my time was up. I’d heard of other individual contractors being offered continuing employment, but that was not the case for me.

Leaving was a mixture of relief and disappointment. I hadn’t been one of the “chosen few” who transitioned into permanent status. Others there told me to “count my lucky stars” and move on to somewhere sane. For months, though, I wondered why.

Eventually, God showed me that it was another time of training and expanding my horizons. I experienced job task challenges and learning opportunities I wouldn’t have had elsewhere. I developed business relationships with people of many ethnic origins and faiths. Raised in a minister’s home, I learned some important lessons about being a Christian among people who want nothing to do with any religion.

God chose that summer job for me, opened doors of opportunity and experience, and taught me some hard lessons. God wants to guide your career paths too. He chose us in Christ, and He wants us to invite Him to continue choosing our future. God didn’t just ‘get stuck’ with you, He chose you!

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, teach us the principles we need to commit into our lives so that we can live as good examples of Christian out in our everyday world. Father, when we need discipline, make us open to accepting those lessons. Soften our hearts to see ourselves as you see us, our actions as you do, and our interactions with others as opportunities to be worthy ambassadors of Christ. Thank you for guiding our job search, opening doors, and blessing our lives as we follow you. In Jesus’ name, Amen.