



SIEBENQUELL

Fullness of Life - Desired by God



Several years ago, a young family in my vicinity received word that their friends in London had received a little boy, Noah. That was on a Sunday. On Monday the news arrived that Noah was a Downs Syndrome child. This badly shook their friends in Germany and they tried to stay in touch. Thus, they discovered several days later, that the trisomy-21, that had been diagnosed with 99% certainty in the twelfth week of pregnancy, had falsely recorded as: » . . with 99% certainty no trisomy-21«. The young mother was now very embittered and lamented: »At that time it was not yet Noah and we could have decided against it.«

This lingered in the minds of the young people in Germany. They have a small child of their own and very worried that the mother could not accept Noah. And so they wrote to London: »Perhaps God wanted Noah to live, because he is a very special child.«

And every time a photo came from London in the days and weeks that followed, the friends from Germany responded, how beautiful the baby was.

What an unbelievable tension! On the one hand, the sadness, the dismay and bitterness, together with the accusation: If had known this, we could have freed ourselves from this. On the other hand, the empathy, the concern and the deep trust, that everything has a meaning and that God's plans for our life contain far more fullness and wealth than we suspect and which we would trust ourselves to bear.

Such times challenge us tremendously. Everything that we planned and anticipated is thrown into turmoil. And we cannot retreat back before this hour. »If I had. . . !« does not help us.

If we do not wish to drown in resignation and bitterness, we must set out on the path through the utterly unknown. It will happen slowly, hesitantly and occasionally we will founder. Yet, there will also be hours and days in which we marvel at the beautiful, at that which succeeds and at our strength and creativity. Tears will flow and despair will overwhelm us, but there are also companions by our side, who at that moment see more than we do and remind us of the good and the beautiful that is there.

Recently I met the young people and inquired as to their friends in London: »Oh, we are still in touch! They are doing well. In the meantime, they also have a small daughter. They are happy. Noah is developing – somewhat slower, naturally. And they want to get married in the summer. We are invited!« And laughing, they moved on.

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