God is a River by Peter Mayer 1

In the ever-shifting water of the river of this life
I was swimming, seeking comfort; I was wrestling waves to find
A boulder I could cling to, a stone to hold me fast
Where I might let the fretful water of this river round me pass
And so I found an anchor, a blessed resting place
A trusty rock I called my savior, for there I would be safe
From the river and its dangers, and I proclaimed my rock divine
And I prayed to it protect me and the rock replied

God is a river, not just a stone
God is a wild, raging rapids
And a slow, meandering flow
God is a deep and narrow passage
And a peaceful, sandy shoal
God is the river, swimmer
So let go

Still I clung to my rock tightly with conviction in my arms

Never looking at the stream to keep my mind from
thoughts of harm

But the river kept on coming, kept on tugging at my legs

Till at last my fingers faltered, and I was swept away

So I'm going with the flow now, these relentless

twists and bends

Acclimating to the motion, and a sense of being led
And this river is like my body now, it carries me along
Through the ever-changing scenes and by the rocks
that sing this song

Refrain - God is a river...

Songwriter: Peter Mayer

Storytelling in small groups or personal reflection. One by one, each person shares their answer to the first prompt below. Then go to the next prompt and so forth. A person can pass.

- 1. Tell of an experience where it felt like you were holding on to a rock in a strong river current and "at last your fingers faltered and I was swept away." (how did you feel at the time and what happened next?)
- 2. Share a story where you felt being led by God (Creator), by a loving and grace filled presence.

(was there a moment of just letting go and letting God guide and comfort you?)

3. Share your thoughts or feelings about the metaphor of being a swimmer in the river of life, where "God is a River." (where is the river taking you?)

Check out and download more small group storytelling reflections and prompts at:

https://lifesjourney.us/storytelling-in-small-groups-menu/
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¹ https://www.petermayer.net/music, (accessed December 16, 2023).