

## Love's Enduring Promise - #2 of the Love Comes Softly Series

*"Do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?"*

*And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Matthew 6:24-33*

Missie dreamed of adventure. When she met Grant he was charming, handsome, rich, and adoring. She believed that he was her dream come true. Marty warned Missie that her feelings could be deceptive. Grant offered her every adventure she had ever dreamed of but she did not accept his marriage proposal.

Why not?

Missie knew that she and Grant did not share the same values and belief system. Missie turned down a life of luxury and privilege because she knew that she wanted something more from life. Missie wanted someone she could share her life with, not some who wanted to change her and transport her into a different life.

What beliefs and values are important to you?

When Clark was injured Willie brought him and his son back home but then disappeared again. He called himself Nate instead of letting people know who he really was. Years earlier he had left the area because of the grief of losing his brother Mattie. When he returned he wanted to make peace with his father, but his father didn't know how to comfort Willie. Working with Clark and the Davis family helped Willie find peace.

Have you ever tried to make peace with someone and had your efforts rebuffed?

Willie had carried Missie's hair ribbons since they were children. It was evident that he cared about her. In the movie Willie changed from a secretive, wounded man to someone who was open, loving and caring. In real life those kinds of changes don't usually happen so quickly. Missie was willing to rely on the counsel of her parents to help her know if Willie was the right man for her.

Who do you trust to help you make important decisions?

Missie chose Willy because they shared the same values and beliefs. Missie didn't want to be pampered, but wanted someone she could share life with and work with, side by side in good times and in hard times. Missie didn't want an endless round of tea parties, but wanted to be a partner to her husband the same way she had been a partner with her family when growing up.

Who are some of the people you are partnering with? What are you building together?

In this movie Missie is faced with choosing between a man who could give her riches and security or someone who would work with her, side-by-side to build a life together. Missie's faith in God helped her to decide which direction she wanted take in life. When we are facing difficult decisions God tells us we can bring our questions and problems to Him in prayer.

*Dear Lord, we thank You that You will always be with us. Sometimes we are faced with challenges that will set the direction of our lives. Give us the patience to consider our choices well and to choose carefully. Give us family and friends who will counsel us wisely. Help us to trust in you in all things. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.*