

FRIENDSHIP NEWSLETTER

For Thai English Students



The Day my Life was Changed!

Adapted from To a Different Drum by Dr. Pauline Hamilton*

"Daughter, come back! Daughter, come back!"

That was my mother calling me as I got into my sister's car and went speeding down the road. I planned to drive the car off the road and *take my own life*.

I was a medical student but had to quit school because I was not well. I was so sick that everyone thought I was going to die. My boyfriend *broke up with me* because of this. Then my university told me that I could not return to study because my grades were not good enough. I had lots of problems and felt that *my life was falling apart*. I felt no one cared about me.

Because of my problems, I was unable to sleep at night. I would lock myself in my room and *pace the floor*. I would not share with anyone, especially my mother, what was going on in my heart. Now I was going to *commit suicide* and get away from all these problems.

I was almost at the place where I was going to drive the car off the road to kill myself. Suddenly I heard a loud BANG! I could not *control* the car and it almost *tipped over*. I got out and saw a big hole in the right front tire.



I began to cry. I knew that God was speaking to me. He had stopped the car by having the tire explode. He had stopped me just before I drove off the road and over the cliff. I knew that He knew where I was and what I was planning to do. I knew that He cared for me. There beside my sister's car, I prayed to God. I gave my life to Him and asked Him to be my guide each day, *for the rest of my life*.



That night, I did not lock my bedroom door nor pace the floor. I found my Bible and began reading it. I read about God and about Jesus. That night was a *turning point* in my life. I was never the same after that.

1. What was Pauline doing at the beginning of this story? What was she planning to do?
2. What problems did Pauline have that made her feel so unhappy?
3. What did she do when she was upset?
4. What happened to the car she was driving that day?
5. Why was this experience a turning point in Pauline's life?

Story adapted by Arlene Sorenson

* Dr. Pauline Hamilton lived and taught about God in Asia for many years until her retirement.

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