



Beginnings and Endings

As June arrives, perhaps some of us sense a gentle invitation to pause and notice where we are. The weeks ahead carry a particular energy for me, a feeling that something is drawing to a close, even as new possibilities begin to open up. For many households, June marks the end of exams and years of study, bringing a heady mix of relief, tiredness and excitement.

This year, that feels especially close, as my son Noah comes to the end of his GCSEs. Like many families, we've lived with revision timetables, quiet encouragement, lots of snacks and prayers, all held alongside that familiar question: *what comes next?*

Across our communities, others will be marking different endings and beginnings too. The school year begins to wind down, projects reach their conclusion, and routines soften as summer draws closer. Even the natural world joins in. Spring's freshness gives way to the smell of barbecues and freshly cut grass. Days stretch long into the evening, gardens flourish, and light seems to linger as if reluctant to leave.

In every season of life, God remains our constant. While our circumstances shift and change, God's faithful presence does not. Scripture reminds us that God walks with us through endings and beginnings alike, offering hope when outcomes are still unknown, peace while we wait, and reassurance as new possibilities unfold.

Christian hope is not about having all the answers, but about trusting the One who holds them. As we journey through June, my prayer is that we may notice what is ending, celebrate what is beginning, and step forward with confidence and joy, trusting that God is already there, welcoming us into all that lies ahead.

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