



## A Better Way

As I write this, we're about five months into a pretty chaotic season in the SU-USA office. We've been surrounded by boxes—packing, unpacking, moving between half-finished offices and renovations—never quite able to settle in and get back to normal. Things aren't entirely in order yet, and the stress has started to show. Even good stress is still stress, and it wears on us.

Yesterday I disappointed myself. I snapped back at criticism, let hurt and frustration spill out as sharp words, and walked away too quickly. The regret hit almost instantly. I'm not proud of it, and it's still on my mind as I write this Final Note.

The Romans passages in this quarter give a clear picture of what plays out for each of us: the sting of sin we still must battle; no one is immune. Like Paul, we often do the things we don't want to do and fail to do the things we do want to do. It can feel hopeless—until Paul's answer: "Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Good things emerged yesterday too. I'm grateful for those friends who pointed me back to a better way and who prayed for me. And I'm grateful for the Spirit who keeps working in us, even through seasons of stress, to make us more like Jesus—the One who rescues and restores.

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