

TRANSCRIPT FOR PODCAST EPISODE 123-GO TO LOST AND FOUND

I'm Jill Baughan, and you're listening to the podcast called Find Joy...No Matter What.

This is Episode 123.

If you're in a tough place right now, your joy may seem like it's hiding--or gone.

I understand. But it's still there, I promise, just waiting to be resurrected. And this podcast is designed to help you do just that...no matter what else is going on in your life.

For just a few minutes each week, I'll tell you a story. --one that just might inspire a way to uncover a piece of joy you might be looking for.

Then we'll consider how it might speak to your life, because even though you'll hear quite a few of my stories during our time together, I believe you'll find your own in every one of mine.

Then I'll offer a benediction to send you into your day--or into your night.

So. If you're up for doing joy shots with a friend today...have a listen.

Raise your hand if you just love being out of control of your life.

Right. I thought so. Exactly no hands are in the air out there.

Generally, we're more comfortable thinking we can change circumstances, fix whatever (or whomever) is broken, and find whatever we've lost. And we'll go to great lengths to get some measure of control back.

Last spring my husband and I took a short Disney cruise with my daughter and her family. At the end of a couple days of Disney-fied magic, we exited the ship and were making our way back to the airport via shuttle. And of course, a bunch of other people were doing the same.

The shuttle at the airport was crowded, and my son-in-law, Josh, was carrying other people's bags, so he set his own down at his feet while he stood, playing pack mule for the ride to the terminal.

And you know how it goes. The shuttle stops and everyone makes a mad dash for the door, jockeying for a spot in the surge of humans that will dump you out at your destination. Heaven forbid that you be the slow one whose face ends up on the wrong side of a shut door, separating you from your family, possibly forever, and putting a knot in the chain of your otherwise practically-perfect-in-every-way vacation.

So when the doors opened, he bolted out. And a few minutes later realized he had bolted without his own bag.

Of course, the shuttle was gone by that time.

But, he reasoned, it was only a short distance away from him. If he could only get to the nearest gate, he could hop in, get the bag and hop back out and life would be good again. So he went to the TSA desk to get a gate pass from the airline.

He explained to the agent there: "I left my bag on the shuttle just a couple minutes ago. If you could give me a gate pass, I can just get to the next gate, get on and get my bag."

But the agent there said, "Sorry. No can do. You'd need to go to the airline itself to get a gate pass. You should go to Lost and Found and wait for it to show up.

He didn't really want to go to Lost and Found to wait who knew how long, possibly forever, and besides, if someone on the shuttle decided it looked like a bag they'd like to have for their very own, that someone could have made off with it and Josh would never see his stuff again, ever.

So he made his way to the airline desk and told the agent, "I left my bag on the shuttle just a couple minutes ago. If you could give me a gate pass, I can just get to the next gate, get on and get my bag."

To which the airline agent said, "Sorry. You need to go to Lost and Found."

So Josh made his way back to Lost and Found. The agent there took his information and said, "We'll send you an email when we find your bag."

Exasperated, Josh explained, "But I just left it on the train 10 minutes ago!"

"Okay," the agent said. "Try going to the Information Desk."

So Josh wandered around, found the Information Desk, and explained to the nice lady, "I left my bag on the shuttle just a couple minutes ago. I went to TSA to get a gate pass so I could hop on the shuttle and get my bag. They said I'd need to get a gate pass from the airline, so I went to the airline who said "No can do," and sent me to Lost and Found who said I'd have to wait for them to email me IF my bag showed up, then they sent me here to the Information desk. I just need to know how I can get to the next gate, get on and get my bag."

And the nice lady said "Sorry. You need to go to Lost and Found."

"I just came from there!" he said. All of the week's Bibbidi Bobbidi Boo was fading fast at this point.

“In that case,” said Nice Lady, “you should talk to the TSA supervisor.”

So he went back to the TSA counter, where the supervisor said, “Sorry. You need to go to Lost and Found.”

Josh said, “Look, I have an air tag on the bag. I can see on my phone that it’s going back and forth and back and forth on the train. I just need somebody to get it off the train.”

To which Supervisor Man replied, “TSA is only responsible for bags left at gate. We can’t send anybody to the terminal to get the bag. You need to go to Airport Security.”

“Argh! How do I do that?” Josh asked.

“Go to the Information Desk,” Supervisor Man said. “They’ll tell you.”

So off he trudged back to the Information Desk, and explained that he’d left his bag on the shuttle, and had been to the TSA desk who sent him to the airline who sent him to Lost and Found who sent him back to TSA who sent him to airport security who sent him back to the Information Desk.

Information Desk Lady #2 said, “Wow. I really don’t know about this. Let me get somebody else to help you.”

So Somebody Else came out, and gave him a phone number, which he called and explained to Lady #3 that..well, you know. And Lady #3 said, “You need to go to Lost and Found.”

And Josh said, “BUT IT’S STILL ON THE TRAIN!”

So Lady #3 said they’d send somebody to get it and take it to Lost and Found. “So,” she explained, “you really need to go to Lost and Found.”

Keep in mind that time was a-wastin’, and with every minute that passed and every new batch of passengers who got on the shuttle, the chances that his bag would get stolen increased.

So Josh thought he’d try one more time to retrieve that bag that was joy-riding around the airport, back and forth and back and forth with reckless abandon. He walked back to TSA, and saw that just around a partition--so close and yet so far away--was the terminal gate. So he said to the TSA agent, “My bag is *right behind* you on that train. Is there no way to get it off?”

To which the TSA agent replied, “You’ll have to get a gate pass to get through the terminal gate and then back to the ticket counter. But we can’t give you a gate pass. You need to go to the airline office to get a gate pass.”

Why he hadn’t lost his temper or his mind by this point I will never know.

So he went to the airline office and gave them the short version of a very long convoluted story: "I need a gate pass to get to the train. My bag is on there."

And the airline agent said, "You have to go back to the ticket counter to get a gate pass."

So off to the ticket counter he went, only to be greeted by a huge line. And just about to resign himself to losing his bag, he glanced down and saw that the air tag was telling his phone that his beloved bag for whom he had sacrificed much, was headed toward...Lost and Found.

As it turned out, some nice man--probably an angel disguised as a vacationing dad-- had picked it up, assumed someone had accidentally left it behind, and made sure it landed in the very place it belonged.

Oh my. Haven't we all been here, metaphorically speaking?

Maybe you've lost something--an opportunity, a job, your health, your youth,

Maybe you've lost someone--to death, divorce, differences of opinion or a destructive habit.

Maybe you're frantically running around, doing everything you know to do to find what's missing.

If that's true, my friend, then this:

When your life circumstances are running wild, making faces at you as they joy-ride past your control,

When you are beyond frustrated at your inability to "fix" a problem...or a person,

When people try to be helpful but they're not,

And you find yourself at the end of yourself,

May you understand that sometimes you just have to trust God with it all, because most probably He's already in Lost and Found, just waiting for you to show up, sit with Him a while...and Let It Go.

Thanks so much for joining me.

If you know someone who's searching for control and not finding it, I invite you to share this podcast with them, and subscribe yourself on iTunes, or wherever you listen to podcasts. Or you can go to my website at jillbaughan.com, click on a podcast episode and

sign up to receive episodes in your inbox. Just don't miss an episode, because I so look forward to being with you again soon.

Make your way to Lost and Found, friend. And always, always remember, if you go looking for joy, you'll most likely find it.

Till next time...

NOTES:

Elsa. "Let It Go."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L0MK7qz13bU>

Godmother, Fairy. "Bibbidi Bobbidi Boo."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VNKuARjkWEg>

Poppins, Mary. "Practically Perfect in Every Way."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QXn3r5plloI>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6eDsRWubPV4>