



LANDER, WYOMING
church of Christ

Lucky?

There is an old story of a man whose prize horse escapes. The neighbors all shake their heads and agree that he has bad luck. He disagrees: "There are no good or bad days – just days. In the same way, there is no good or bad luck."

The next day his horse returns leading an entire herd onto his property. His neighbors congratulate him on his good turn of luck. Again he disagrees. One by one, events unfold and are judged by his neighbors as either good or bad, but he continually denies both. This story is often used to teach perceptions.

You can choose how you see life.

Two weeks I go, I shared with two sisters that we should be out of China by the end of February. One sighed unhappily, but the other clapped her hands in joy. She quickly explained that I would still be around to marry her and her fiancé. Same news, but opposite reactions.

Some believe that life is what you make it; that there are no good days nor bad, just days. We, unlike animals can choose how to respond. We can fill the gap between stimulus and response with choice. I believe this is partly true because a key factor is missing.

I am sure you are aware of many contrasts in the Bible. For example, Jesus said whoever loses his life will gain it; the King of heaven was born in a stable; and Jesus' death resulted in our life. The point is the more I get to know Jesus, the more I realize there are actually no bad days. "All things work for the good of those who love the Lord." "Nothing can separate us from the Love of God."

God is in control, now and forever, and He loves us. With that in mind, we can never have bad luck or bad days, can we?

- Triston Jacobsohn, 2011