

THIS IS ONEIDA
“WILLING TO DO GOD’S WILL” Part 2



We continue with part two of Rebekah Roughton’s 2013 salutatory address:

“I pray that we will all cast away broken hands of hate, pain, selfishness, pride, and envy and allow God to mold them into hands of love, kindness, encouragement, humility, and peace. Only God can do that; He is the potter and we are the clay. One of my favorite quotes is, ‘Have Thine own way, O Lord, have Thine own way. Thou art the potter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me after Thy will, while I am waiting, yielded and still.’

“Congratulations seniors; we have made it this far. Now it is time to spread our wings and fly, but make sure it is where God would have you to go. God has brought us this far, now let Him choose our next course to take. He is always there to direct us if we only listen to Him. We need to give Him our whole selves if we wish to get anywhere; we need to surrender fully to Him. My feet and hands were wild and excited and did some crazy things and God may use that in my future. He has brought me so far and has blessed me in many ways. I do not know what He has in store for me, but I do know that He will tell me in His perfect time, for to everything there is a season. He will lead each step I take. Even if I make a wrong turn, I know He will help me turn around and get back on His path.

“My wish for every one of you graduates is that you will personally find Christ and follow His footsteps. Allow Him to use your hands and your feet. He knows what is best and all His ways are perfect, so there is no one better to trust and have faith in. Proverbs 3:5-6 says, ‘Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways, acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths.’ It is true that ‘all things work together for the good of those who love God and have been called according to His purpose.’ You are being called right now; listen to your calling and let God lead. He is saying, ‘I know the plans that I have for you. Plans to prosper you, not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future.’ All we have to do is come and let Him use what is already His. We all have wonderful and unique gifts and talents that He can use for His glory, if only we choose to allow Him to.

“That is my prayer for my class, that you follow Him with all your heart. Hopefully at our reunion, you all can tell me all about what God is doing in your lives because you allowed Him to move through your hands and your feet.”

Rebekah closed her “Oneida Experience” essay with these words: “I am ready to finally touch the sky of independence while being dependent on God, the one who gave me wings and the ability to fly. I hope to honor Him and glorify Him in all the opportunities He presents and the lives I come in contact with. I want to touch them all with Jesus’ love and leave His mark wherever I venture.” Amen.

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