



# Is There Ever REALLY a Dead End?

*Lisa Diez*

Imagine this: You are given a vision of something that seems like it might be impossible. When you look at it with your natural eyes, you see all the reasons it will never work. But you know in your heart that this is the direction you are supposed to go. And yet, dead ends abound.

A parallel to this happened to me when my family and I visited Scotland last year.



You get an idea of what might be up ahead. It's a seed planted in your heart that you want to water, but you are afraid of closed gates and all the things that might be difficult to climb over.

But yet, you know you must press on. Because now that initial seed has become something bigger and as you move forward, it begins to grow. Now you have an idea of what might be up ahead. It is still off in the distance, but you can see it, and you know that this direction is the one meant for you.

We discovered this fantastic looking castle in the distance and we knew there was a way to get to it. But just like life, we started down a trail that quickly became overrun and impossible to pass. So the next thought is to try another way. You know it is there for you, so you again turn and start down another trail that becomes another dead end. And so it goes. You know there is a way to get there, but each way you begin, there is a roadblock or a dead end. You have the vision of this castle in your sight, but how do you get to it?



Life is often so much like this path. Full of overgrown bushes and walls in our way. We have to either find a way around them, or over them, or sometimes just trudge right through them. The path set before us is not always easy. It can be painful, full of things that are meant to stop you and set you back.

Don't do that.

Press on. If you can't go through the wall, go around. If you aren't sure if you are heading the right way, ask others for direction. If you feel stuck and alone, take the time to pray and ask God. If you were given this vision, you are definitely meant to see it through!



And there will come a time of break through. As your vision becomes more of a reality, you will understand just how great and beautiful it really is. All the things that seemed so daunting, will become dim memories as you overcome your dead ends.

Really, in the end you also became stronger because of all those “pauses.” You may have had to reevaluate, you may have had to change direction, you may have had to try a different way all together, but you will get there! Those things will have made you smarter, and stronger in the end.

Sometimes it can seem like you are spiraling just like this staircase and you have no idea where you are headed! You don't know if you are going to fall, but you can try and give yourself the grace to make a mistake. You see, there are never any real “dead ends.” They are always meant to be new beginnings where you will conquer and persevere. And it isn't bad to celebrate those trails that didn't lead where you thought they would. Because in the end, they helped lead you somewhere you were meant to be.



You may be just relaxing out in the courtyard in front of your castle. You may be just getting ready to enter it. Or you might have already have climbed to the top to look at the view just like us in this picture on the left. But no matter where you are, know that life is meant to be an adventure where we walk and follow our dreams.

Enjoy the journey.  
And enjoy the view.

