



Weekly Wisdom 2-24-2017

~Stephen Sarchet

Recently I've been watching a documentary about the Eagles from their beginnings in the early days of the southern California music scene through their hiatus (because, for the record, they never really broke up), and their eventual reunion when hell indeed froze over. It was so interesting to me to listen to Glenn Frey and Don Henley talk about their start in music and how they ended up in California learning to make music together with the likes of Linda Ronstadt, Bob Seger, and Jackson Browne.

*I'll let you in on a
little secret.
If I could share with
you a thing or two.
If you just act like
you know what
you're doing
Everybody thinks
you do.
~Joe Walsh*

One of the stories that really stood out to me was hearing Glenn talk about the time he spent with Bob Seger. At the time Glenn had been playing with a cover band and Bob was telling him that if he really wanted to be successful, he would have to write his own songs. Glenn said he had written a little, but his songs weren't very good, to which Bob said to write them till they are good! That story really stood out to me. Growing up with the Eagles as part of the soundtrack of my life, it struck me that Glenn Frey, who would go on to write and sing some of the best songs ever recorded, struggled with doubt about his ability just as he was beginning his career.

When they got going, when Glenn, Don, Bernie, and Randy became the Eagles, the one thing they all had in mind was to be the best musicians and song writers they could be. Their journey took them to places they probably only dared dream of. Along the way they were joined by others for the trip (the other Don, Joe, JD, and Timothy) that took them all down life in the fast lane and on dark desert highways.

Listening to the all tell their stories, it was clear that they were all working hard to achieve a vision. They all had an idea, a something to shoot for that kept them going. And so they were propelled forward. It wasn't always easy and the occasionally had to adjust course, but they kept on toward something important to them.

Finding that "something" to shoot for is important. It gets us up in the morning and keeps us looking somewhere out on that horizon. Some of us take the first steps of our journeys with uncertainty. Others blast away from the launch pad in a blaze of fire and confidence. Either way, the thing we have in common is that we began somewhere on our journeys. Even if we find ourselves stuck on a corner in Winslow, Arizona and have to change course, we are closer to having reached our "something" simply because we started.