

PLANS

They've spent years preparing, Father.

These elite athletes have trained,
tested their limits,
focused their time and energy,
prioritised one goal above all else:
To compete in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.
But now they have learned
They will not travel,
nor gather with fellow athletes,
nor compete in this prestigious event,
nor achieve the goals they anticipated.

Their plans,
ambitions,
hopes,
Will remain unfulfilled—
At least, for now.

Because suddenly,
unexpectedly
Circumstances have changed,
opportunities have evaporated,
dreams have been dashed,

So often, Father,
we plan,
strive,
prioritise one goal above all others;

And then, suddenly,
unexpectedly,
Circumstances change
opportunities evaporate,
dreams are dashed.

It is good to make plans,
Conjure dreams and ambitions,
And pursue them with our bodies and hearts;
But Father,
Do I prioritise my plans above yours?
Do I seek my own glory before yours?
Do I relegate you to the back seat so I can drive?

Help me, Father,
To honour the skills you gave me,
To fulfil the call you have for me.

In everything you do, put God first, and he will direct you and crown your efforts with success. (Proverbs 3: 6, TLB)