

HE IS WITH YOU

Isaiah 43:2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned.

In *Psalms 23:4* David said, "I will fear no evil for You are with me." He spoke these words with courage and boldness as he considered walking through the valley of the shadow of death, because he was confident that God's presence would with him all the way. He knew the Lord would take him through to the other side. He would not be defeated, overcome or overwhelmed because God was with him.

There was a time when I was troubled by many fears, but things have changed in my life since I have learned to simply take God at His word and believe that He is constantly with me. In fact in the process, my life has been and continues to be transformed by God's power, as faith has grown in my heart. I have proven God's faithfulness and discovered that He is always ready to help me. Knowing He is with me always and willing to come to my aid in times of testing I have greater confidence in Him and am able to live free from fear and anxiety.

The more our focus is on the Lord, the less intimidating the challenges of life appear to be. In fact they seem to diminish in size when we catch sight of the greatness of our God. Living in the conscious awareness of His presence we become fully persuaded that with God nothing shall be called impossible and, that if God is for us, there is no one who is able to defeat us. (*Romans 8:31*)

Even if you find yourself in challenging circumstances today, be assured that God loves you and He is with you always, (*Matthew 28:20*). With this knowledge you can rise up with courage and strength, no matter how bleak the situation may appear to be. You can move forward in faith and say, "God is with me, therefore I will not fear. Whatever my need, I am confident that He will meet it, just as He has promised." (*Philippians 4:19*)

With growing confidence in your heart you will see how the Lord will bring you through your present difficulties. The storm will pass and the sun will shine down upon you again. You will be able to tell your story and encourage others because you have seen the salvation of the Lord and He will be glorified in your life.

The enemy would try to hinder you and put obstacles in your way, but know you have nothing to fear. Keep your focus on Me, follow Me and walk in the path I have chosen for you and you will be able to navigate through the challenges you face. Day by day as you seek Me you will receive understanding and direction as you follow the promptings of My Spirit and He will enable you to enter into the good things I have planned for you. Do not feel you need to know all the details of My plan, for I will make known to you those things that you need to know, in a timely way. Take courage in your walk of faith. Step out in obedience and you will grow strong and be empowered by My Spirit. As you hear and obey My voice you will learn to trust Me without fear or hesitation.