We Never Walk Alone!



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During any time of loss in our church family, we are given the privilege of helping by being there for them; to encourage; support; and to pray for them about whatever they are going through—reminding them of God's promises. We all feel the *loss*, so we all seek God's *peace*.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 "Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing." [Lyrics] I'm so glad I'm a part of the family of God—It's because we're a family that these folks are so dear; and, when one has a heartache we all share the tears.

When a loved one who meant so much to us and did so much for us, is no longer with us, we need to be reminded of some things about our heavenly Father—He is compassionate; He loves us all with the same divine love; He knows the emptiness and sadness in our heart; and He has promised to never leave us alone. "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you," John 14:18.

That is God's Word and promise, so we accept it by faith and walk with our Savior every day through any trial or loss—walking in faith until He returns to reunite us with all who have gone before; all who were steadfast in their faith in God. Good-bye is just until Jesus returns to reunite all true believers.

We never walk alone, we have the Savior, who walks beside us everywhere we go. Our hearts rejoice in His loving favor; And all who will His saving grace may know. We never walk alone in stormy weather; When winds of trouble sweep about our head; We know we're safe because we are together; And 'round us His protecting love is spread. With such a Friend to comfort and to guide us; We never, no, we never walk alone!

Although saddened in spirit, we are assured by the Word that God is in control; that Jesus walks beside us; and that His Holy Spirit will guide us now and in the coming days.

All God wants us to do is to be strong in the faith; to believe in His promises; and to be assured of His gift of Eternal Life. Good-bye is just until Jesus returns to reunite us with our loved ones.

No one understands like Jesus; He knows more about our sorrow and loss than anyone else could know—since He knows our heart, and He alone can comfort us when we feel lost and alone. John 5:24 "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life."

We have heard the Word, and we believe in Jesus, so we are assured of possessing eternal life as we stay the course and keep the faith. As we do that, we cross over from the wide road of destruction to the narrow path toward Paradise. [lyrics] Let us not grow weary in the struggle of it all, Jesus will help us when on His name we call. Do we feel tired and friendless; does it seem we lost our way—Jesus will help us, just come to Him today—[Reach Out to Jesus].

Whenever trials, temptations, or loss come our way, the devil wants us to doubt God's presence; to not know His peace; and to bring feelings of emptiness or of being alone—but we never walk alone when we walk with the Savior. He is always there; hearing every prayer, faithful and true. Walking by our side, in His love we hide, all

the day through. When we get discouraged, just remember what to do, Reach out to Jesus, He's reaching out to you.

Regardless of what we are going through, God is preparing us for something so much better and lasting forever. God created much *beauty* in the world, but the *glory* of Heaven is beyond anything on earth. Eternity in Heaven is continual praise and worship and wonder.

The apostle looked Revelation 4:1 "And, behold, a door was opened in heaven." He was able to see God. The elders were worshipping and saying Revelation 4:11 "You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created."

This life is short—no one can waste time to get ready—we must prepare by believing, trusting, and enduring in faith in the Blood of Christ through every trial or loss. James 1:12 "Blessed is he who patiently endures trials; for when he has stood the test, he will gain the victor's crown—even the crown of Life—which the Lord has promised to those who love Him."

God will prepare anyone who is committed to trust Him for everything in life. The world has rejected the *Word* of God and totally ignores the *Son* of God. Very few repent of sins and even less are willing to give up idols. "When the *Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?*" Luke 18:8.

Every believer can *claim* God's comfort when it is needed, and they can *ask* for divine guidance when facing difficult times. We hold to God's *Word* and His *promise* of seeing our loved ones again. 1 Thessalonians 4:14 "For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him."

During any tough time, questions can come to mind—we want to understand God's *purpose*

in it all. 1 Corinthians 13:12 "Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known."

Just before the crucifixion, the disciples were anxious and fearful—they needed hope and assurance so Jesus said John 14:1 "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me." He added Luke 12:32 "Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."

Satan wants us to think that God is far away; and he wants us to feel alone—but we are never alone when we have the Savior, who walks with us and is beside us every step of the way. God is very concerned about us. He knows our need and understands our loss—so He offers the gift of His Spirit to guide us thru any trial or loss.

Psalm 139:7 "Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? 8 If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there."

Satan can cause fear and uncertainty, but we can claim God's peace and continue to *trust in faith* on the promises of the Word. Hebrews 10:37 "For yet a little while, And He who is coming will come and will not tarry."

Through every trial or loss, we need to press on in the strength that God promises to give—as He *prepares* us and *leads* us to His kingdom.

Life often brings *change*—circumstances beyond our control—but our *faith* should *not* change as we prepare for the kingdom. Change is just another turn on the road that leads to the place Jesus has prepared—therefore we continue straight ahead on the path of believing trust. Jesus is *the resurrection and the life* John 11:25, and "He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live."

With every trial met and every loss experienced, we are given a choice—to keep hope alive or allow doubts to cloud the promise that God gives John 14:1 "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me."

Jesus meets us in the valleys as well as on the mountains. He is waiting to take our hand as we allow Him to lead us through the shadows. We never walk alone when we follow the leading of the Savior.

Heaven is promised to the faithful in Christ—therefore we do not mourn; we do not lose heart; and we keep our trust on God. We have a living hope of living forever in a paradise kingdom.

We may be sad in spirit, but we are confident in heart that God will lead us to better times, happier days, and to Eternal Life—as we trust Him in faith to fulfill every promise given. John 14:3 "If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."

We are to believe that; repeat that; and accept it as a true fact!

Let us thank God for the many opportunities He has given to prove His love and faithfulness. Let us thank Him for the numerous times He has been right beside us to guide us concerning the need of the moment. No, we never walk alone—God is right beside us.

God has enabled us, so many times, to prove that He will *not* forsake us, and He will *never* allow us to walk alone—we just call on His name and believe what He has promised.

Psalm 9:9 "The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble. 10 And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou, LORD, hast not forsaken them that seek thee." The good times we shared with our loved ones have become part of our permanent memory—nothing can take them away from us without our consent. The memory of a precious moment with a loved one, is one of God's great gifts to His children.

Although saddened in *spirit*, we are steadfast in *faith* that God will do what He promised. John 14:1 "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. 2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you."

Let us be assured that we and our loved ones will live again in another place with Jesus—if for no other reason than He promised John 14:3 "If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am." And the added bonus of God bringing with Jesus 1 Thessalonians 4:14 "Those who have fallen asleep in him."

Good-bye is just until Jesus returns to reunite us with all who have gone before us in faith. The Bible promise from Jesus Himself assures us of being *certain*—that we shall 1 Thessalonians 4:17 "Ever be with the Lord. 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words."

We never walk alone, we have a Savior; Who walks beside us everywhere we go. And with such a Friend to comfort and to guide us, we never, no, we never walk alone.

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