



NEVER WILL I LEAVE YOU

September 2015

No one will be able to stand up against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Joshua 1:5

A while back I prayed this: “Lord, for a few moments, as I woke up this morning, I felt as though you’d forsaken me. For a while I felt abandoned. But how could that be? I don’t think I’ve ever felt that before . . . or have I?”

This feeling hasn’t happened often to me in the past. Though I may have felt it when I went through some traumatic experiences years ago. I might have felt it when I was excluded from a group I wanted to be a part of. And might I be feeling it now as I leave work that had meant so much to me? Might this big change be causing this response within me?

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Each of the above cases brought grief and depression. But did God really leave me? I don't think so. If I remember rightly, He just took me to a different place—a place that turned out to be better for me. A place where I could serve Him in a new and different way.

No, I didn't continue feeling forsaken. How could I? . . . though I must say, waking up with such thoughts scares me. Is my faith really that fragile?

I need to rely on God to be there for me, especially now as I leave this responsibility I've had so long, the work I love so much. I rely on Him because I need to talk to Him to find guidance, to give me the strength and courage I need for whatever follows. I need the knowledge of God's love. How could I possibly do without God's love?

The God of Moses and Joshua—our God—will be with us too. Always with us, whether we feel Him there or not.

God is REAL, able to give us COURAGE and STRENGTH. God has an EVERLASTING LOVE, for ourselves and for us to share with others.

“Where are you taking us next, Lord?”

Readers: Are you too in the middle of changes in your life? Trust that God will be with you. He will never leave you or forsake you. It's His promise to you.

marja