



Holding onto Hope Devotional

with Ve-Anna Thomas

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THE UNEXPECTED STORM

One morning, a couple of months ago, I woke up; and heard everyone around me talking about a storm that passed so sudden, and unexpected, during the course of the night. There was heavy rain, lightning, thunder, strong winds you name it—it happened. Personally, I had no clue that any of this occurred, because I was fast asleep, all night long, during the “freak storm.” When I arrived at work, my co-workers were talking about the storm. I went on social media; and even there, the storm was a hot topic in many conversations. I was not in a position to say much or comment, as I did not experience the unexpected storm. The scripture for this devotion is:

**When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee;
and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee:
when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned;
neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.**

Isaiah 43:2 (KJV)

In the midst of the storms of life, you can rest assured that God’s got you covered, protected and secured. Sometimes, we might get a warning in advance, saying “the storm is coming, be prepared.” Other times, there are storms that are “unexpected” such a death of a loved one, sickness, financial loss, a family issue and the list go on and on.

We cannot stop the storms from coming because THEY WILL COME. We cannot avoid them either. They come at home, in our families, in marriages, at work, in relationships, and even at church! We have to pass through the storms, we have to pass through the waters, and we have to walk through the fire. But guess what? We are not going through them alone! Our ever present help in times of trouble, is right there beside us! Storms will not overflow us, nor overwhelm us. Be encouraged by the words of this song:

*Ride out your storm, for God’s right there with you
You may not feel him; for you’re not alone
You’re hurting now; but your answer is coming
So hold onto Jesus, and ride out your storm*

All we have to do is to change our response, because in the midst of any storm, God is still with us. So go through confidently! Pass through confidently and walk through confidently! You can even sleep peacefully, in the midst of the storm.

Thinking it Over:

Take some time and meditate on the above scripture and song. How can you change your response as you go through the storms you are facing. Or, in what way(s) can you prepare for an unexpected storm?

Prayer Starter:

Lord, I thank you for the reminder that you are with me always. Even though I am facing storms at this moment, I stand confident and I stand strong upon your word

Your Sister in Christ,
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