

## Tuesday - March 12

*"I am not going to leave you alone in the world-I am coming to you."*

*John 14:18*

By the time I was 10 I had experienced a trauma that I was afraid to share with anyone. I began to feel estranged from my family and from God. It was not until I was in high school that I found the above verse in the gospel of John. It spoke to me. Even though I felt sinful, I felt assured that God still loved me.

For the rest of my life I've known God in Christ is with me. The Bible calls Jesus the Messiah and one of his names is 'Emmanuel' which means 'God with us.' Over and over we're assured that God is present in our lives. Every once in a while God reveals something deeper about that. Last year one of the members of our Tuesday Morning Group reminded me that we don't need to pray 'God be with so-and-so,' we need to pray that the person will be sensitive to God's presence with them. That changed the way I pray.

Jesus in John's gospel calls the Holy Spirit the 'Paraclete' which means 'one who walks with us.' I like that image. But recently another revelation. In Larry's Wednesday Bible Study I repeated what I've known for so many years: God is always present with us and Larry added that God is not just present, God is actively present in our lives. God doesn't just walk along beside us, God's grace is actively working to help us experience life in its fullness. Remember Jesus said he came that we may have life, and have it abundantly! (John 10:10b) May this be true for all of us.

Dave

**Prayer:** Lord, keep revealing yourself to us. Walk beside us through the good and the ugly of life and actively work to help us grow deeper in our faith in you through the work of Christ in our lives. Amen.