

## Thursday - March 10

*Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*

*Isaiah 41:10 (ESV)*

This past year has been a tough one. My daughter was in the hospital for a week, so sick that we worried about losing her, yet every test came back negative. Even after she was back home, we went from doctor to doctor before finally getting a diagnosis and putting her on a treatment plan. In the middle of all that, I discovered that I have a brain aneurysm. Then my 94-year-old father's health grew worse and many decisions needed to be made to care for him. I was emotionally exhausted.

Deep down inside, I knew God was with me, yet I still felt hopeless. And that was when God began to work through my family and friends to support and encourage me. Church friends encouraged me to work with a Stephen Minister, who helped me see hope and positivity when I couldn't see it myself. My small group members assured me that when I couldn't find the words to pray myself, they would be praying for me. Friends and family sent encouraging cards and e-mails, a high school friend sent me a book that helped him when he went through a tough time. God made sure that I knew he was right there every moment and that I would be able to see Him in the face of every person who helped me throughout the year. What a blessing to know that we are never alone, God will always be with us!

Nancy

**Prayer:** Dear God, thank you for always being with us, even when we lose our way and feel abandoned. You show Your love for us through the people in our lives, assuring us that we never have to face difficult times alone. Amen.