



DADDY'S HERE!

by Vincent M. Newfield

Do not be afraid! Fear not! Do not fear! Over and over, these encouraging expressions resonate through God's written Word. Yet, how often do we find ourselves faced with fearful situations that endeavor to devour our faith and paralyze our progress. How can we cling tightly to our faith and break free from fear when it seems to have a choke hold on our mind and emotions? By remembering our Heavenly Father's powerful promise—*Daddy's here!*

ALL FAITH BOILS DOWN TO THIS

I believe every ounce of our faith boils down to one powerful promise repeated by our heavenly Father: "I am with you!" It is not an accident that this fear-defeating phrase is frequently found next to the words *fear not* in Scripture (see Isaiah 41:10). Knowing that God is with us is the ultimate fire extinguisher of fear. As believers, when everything that we have in the natural is stripped away and exhausted—all our money, possessions, positions, education, influence, etc.—the only thing we have left is the greatest thing we have: the promise of His presence!

As a little boy, I battled with fear countless times, especially at bedtime. Fearful thoughts of a monstrous menace in the closet, under my bed or in the hall haunted me many a night. The one thing that ultimately put my mind at ease was telling myself, *Daddy's here!* Knowing that my 6'2, two hundred and fifty-something pound papa was in yelling distance in the den infused me with an inner sense of safety and security that brought me rest. In an even greater way, our heavenly Father wants you and I to feel safe, secure and at rest knowing that He's near.

The Lord God is my Strength, my personal bravery, and my invincible army; He makes my feet like hinds' feet and will make me to walk [not stand still in terror, but to walk] and make [spiritual] progress upon my high places [of trouble, suffering, or responsibility]!

—Habakkuk 3:19

GOD'S YOUR GUARDIAN GOD

Jesus says to *you*, ...Be sure of this—that **I am with you always**, even to the end of the world (Matthew 28:20 TLB). Stop for a minute and just chew on this everlasting, indestructible promise from God. Wherever you go, whether you are awake or asleep, God promises to be with *you!* *God's your Guardian, right at your side to protect you...God guards you from every evil, he guards your very life. He guards you when you leave and when you return, he guards you now, he guards you always* (Psalm 121:5, 7,8 The Message).

Again, stop reading and think about that. The great Creator—the One who made the spectacular expanse of the stars, the One who made the majestic mountains and fathomless seas, the One who knit together the intricate inner workings of your human body—promises to be with *you*. The same Great I Am who was with Moses, Joshua and Jesus promises to be with you. That's certainly something to shout about!

WHAT HE PROMISED OTHERS, HE PROMISES YOU

It's clear from Scripture that God does not show favoritism (see Acts 10:34; Romans 2:11). What He promises to do for one is available for all. So if God promised Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Joshua, Gideon, Solomon, Jeremiah, Paul, the Disciples and the nation of Israel that He would be with them,* He will also be faithful to be with you. If you're fighting fear, draw close to God and ask Him for the strength to know your *Daddy's Here!*

Take the Next Step

*See Genesis 26:24, 28:15; Exodus 33:14-16; Joshua 1:5-9; Judges 6:16; 1 Kings 11:38; Jeremiah 1:8, 19; Acts 18:9,10; John 14:27; Haggai 1:13.

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