

Memory Verse: Hebrews 13:6

“Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.” So we say
with confidence, “The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.”

*If you never felt pain,
how would you know that I am a Healer?*

*If you never had to pray,
how would you know that I am a Deliverer?*

*If you never felt sadness,
how would you know that I am a Comforter?*

*If you never made a mistake,
how would you know that I am a Forgiver?*

*If you knew all,
how would you know that I will answer your questions?*

*If you never were in trouble,
how would you know that I will come to your rescue*

*If you never were broken,
how would you know that I can make you whole?*

*If you never had a problem,
how would you know that I can solve them?*

*If you never had any suffering,
how would you know what I went through?*

*If you never had a trial,
how could you call yourself an overcomer?*

*If you never went through the fire,
how would you become pure?*

*If I gave you all things,
how would you appreciate them?*

*If I never corrected you,
how would you know that I love you?*

*If you had all power,
how would you learn to depend on me?*

*If your life was perfect,
what would you need me for?*

The beautiful thought provoking words on the previous page have been displayed in my office for many years. The memory verse this week, Hebrews 13:6, has hung on my wall even longer. These words instruct me and comfort me in the Lord.

1. Take a moment to meditate on the words of this poetry on the previous page. As you read through these truths, which line is God speaking to you through?

Ask people to read through the statements on the previous page and share which words touch them personally.

2. Read Deuteronomy 31:6, the verse quoted in Hebrew 13:6. In this verse we see encouragement spoken to Joshua and the Israelite nation. How do these words still apply to you today?

God promises to be with us always. Later in this chapter (Hebrews 13:8) we are reminded that “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.” So I can count on His faithfulness. Before His ascension to heaven He reminded us, “I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28:20)

3. Do you live as though God is with you always and believing that He never will leave you or forsake you?

Ask people if they feel like they are living out their faith in a way like they believe He is with them always.

Read: Romans 8:28-32 (focus verse Romans 8:31)

4. What does this passage tell you about God? About yourself?

This reminds me that no matter what is happening God is able to do His work in me through it. That God has a plan in all things and His plan is good. He loves me, He chose me, and He is for me. It reminds me to trust in God and not worry about the things of this world.

5. How might your life be different if you lived as though God was with you and God was for you?

Ask people to share once again about how they would live differently if they really believed that God has our back and He has our best interest in mind.

Read: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10 (focus verse 2 Cor. 12:9)

6. How has God’s grace proven to be enough in your life?

Let this question lead you into a time of testimony sharing and worship. Reflect on the poem below about the Thorn.

The Thorn by Martha Snell Nicholson

*I stood a mendicant of God before His royal throne
And begged him for one priceless gift, which I could call my own.
I took the gift from out His hand, but as I would depart
I cried, “But Lord this is a thorn and it has pierced my heart.
This is a strange, a hurtful gift, which Thou hast given me.”
He said, “My child, I give good gifts and gave My best to thee.”
I took it home and though at first the cruel thorn hurt sore,
As long years passed I learned at last to love it more and more.
I learned He never gives a thorn without this added grace,
He takes the thorn to pin aside the veil which hides His face.*

