

Day 4:

Scripture: Isaiah 41:10

Embrace Christ

The strength Christ offers is not loud or commanding. It is quiet, still, and, remarkably, peaceful. To rejoice that Michael had been ushered into Christ's eternal kingdom and that he was now present with Jesus was a foreign experience, yes, but it was also one that was full of God's peace and unwavering calm.

Most of the time when we walk through tragic difficulties, we want to change the circumstances. But God faithfully changes us! And, as He does, we get to know Him more intimately and we grow more confident in Him. We find that we are being prepared to face further difficulties in our future with a calm, sustaining faith.

I invite you to know the sufficiency and strength that Christ offers. If you are buried in panic or fear, or if anxiety reaches out and grabs you during your day, you can find refuge in Christ. He is our strong tower. He is the God of all sufficiency and strength.

Perhaps God is reaching into one of your *big* fears and saying to you, "Now is the time to grow up in this matter."

What will you decide to do? Will you choose the loving arms of Christ, or will you run, hide, avoid, or ignore Him as He speaks into and over your deeper needs?

Yes, this growth is painful. Yes, this growth takes work to let God be God. But ultimately, you will grow stronger. You will be able to stand, not collapse into self-centered fear and pity.

May our God meet you in your fear, anxiety, or panic today. No more collapse for you. You will stand in Him. You will stand in Him and help others to stand in Him also!