

FaithBIT

See You on the Other Side

Reflection by Lisa Ross

This phrase can mean many things depending on the situation. It can be said when someone is trying to accomplish a major goal and we wish for them to have prosperous journey along the way and we want to hear about those accomplishments when they reach that goal. It can be said when sending someone off on an adventure and we mean it as well wishes for a safe trip and we look forward to seeing them when they get back. It can be said when someone faces adversity, or a challenge and we want to give them encouragement that they can do it. Now days, it can be a wish for this pandemic to be over and a hope to look at a future where we can see one another in the fashion like we used to. Also, it can be said when we are facing the death of a loved one and we KNOW where they are going and where we will meet again someday. See you on the other side... there is a bible verse that makes me think about tough times and the promise of hope in the future.

Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

As we all know, this summer brought about challenges as we looked to find things to do with our families or close friends that were safe with the pandemic. We were fortunate to be able to escape north to our camping resort area where we are located on a river that flows in front of our resort camper and it goes out into a mid-sized lake.

One weekend we could see a storm brewing. It appeared to be a storm that was not going to simply pass through easily, but it seemed to be a storm that we needed to take cover for at the resorts storm shelter. Unfortunately, we had no time to do just that as the straight-line winds were starting to come across the lake so fast it took us all by surprise and we barely had time to get inside our camper. At the same time we got inside, we saw a small fishing boat come flying by us in the river. They made it to the part of the river where it opens to the lake and took a long pause there as they saw the storm coming across the lake. It was just enough pause for us to notice it was a Dad, Mom and two small girls. No hesitation on my husband's part, he ran out to the shore of the lake and tried to get them to come ashore and take cover with us. They could not hear him as the winds were screaming at this point. The decision they then made was to race home and try to beat the storm. They were out of sight in seconds. My kids were screaming, "No!" My husband raced back to take cover.

All I could think to do was pray. Pray for the safety of this family. The waves were loud and huge at this point as they hit shore and we could not see anything out on the lake. The winds caused a lot of damage at our resort in a short amount of time. Our awning bent like a pipe cleaner, a large shed was tossed into the neighbor's yard and a heavy grill was flipped upside down like they were feathers. All we could do was think about that family that went out into the lake.

The storm left as quickly as it came, and my husband jumped into the pontoon to look for this young family as soon as he could see out on the lake. I still prayed. My husband saw the boat on shore at a nearby cabin. They actually had capsized, floated to shore, and made it to the cabin to take shelter. Praise the Lord! I remember saying in my prayers that I would, "See them on the other side." I prayed for God to carry them safely to shore. This was a true God sighting that day.

I know that God is with us as we navigate through these times and we know that we will...see each other on the other side.

