By GARY ANDREWS
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Have you ever felt sorry for yourself? Most of us have and we go around saying, “Woe is me” to anyone that will listen. Sometimes we feel as though we are the only person in the entire world that is hurting and everything is about us at that certain time.

Ann Landers once said, “When life’s problems seem overwhelming, look around and see what other people are coping with. You may consider yourself fortunate.” What a tremendous statement by a lady who has given all types of advice to millions around the world.

There are going to be times when we have our ups and downs but at any given moment we can look around us and find someone that is hurting and, most of the time, our problems won’t be near as bad as we think they are. Sometimes we feel abandoned and all alone because we have wrapped ourselves up in our problems and will not let anyone in to help us. It seems as though no one cares and the Psalmist tells us in 38:11, “My friends and companions avoid me because of my wounds; my neighbors stay far away.”

The Bible also tells us that there is one that will never leave us and that is our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We live in a land that has been blessed so abundantly and there are so many ways that we can help ourselves or find ways that can bless us even in our lowest self-appointed times. After Moses died and the Israelites, who were afraid because they had lost their leader, were ready to cross into Jordan, the Lord said to Joshua to tell His people not to fear. The Lord continues to be with us that trust in Him and look to Him for guidance and leadership. Joshua 1:5 tells us, “No one will be able to stand up against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

When we are feeling down and out all of us that know the Lord need to remember He is with us always and will never leave us. He will provide for us whether it is through a relative, a friend, or in some other form, God will bring you through whatever type problem you seem to be having. There is no reason for us to ever feel sorry for ourselves if we have the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior. He is and always will be with you in time of sorrow, need, joy, or any situation. We just need to look to Him, ask Him to help us, and then reap the blessings He has for us.

Prayer: Thank you Lord for always being with me and giving me comfort in my darkest times. You are a gracious and merciful God and have blessed me in so many ways. Amen.

(Suggested daily Bible readings: Sunday – Philippians 2:12-18; Monday – Numbers 16:12-20; Tuesday – Luke 23:26-30; Wednesday – Job 19:14-19; Thursday – Hebrews 11:11-16; Friday – Ecclesiastes 1:2-11; Psalm 73:12-28.)

Gary Andrews is the author of Encouraging Words: 30-days in God’s Word. To obtain a copy go to his website www.gadevotionals. com.