Good Sunday morning Church of the Apostles Family and Friends...

My eldest son, Pastor Nate, shared this devotion with me. He must have known I needed it, and now I want to share it with all of you.

The author is Jess Prentiss.

"God promises to answer me when I call. To be with me in trouble. To be with me.

Not to grant 3 wishes. Not to wave a magic wand. Not 911 when what's your emergency? Not 2-day shipping on exactly what I ordered lest I leave a negative review. When God answers the call, it's to remind me God is still there with me.

God rescues me, not so much from what is happening on the outside but what is happening on the inside. I am rescued from my fears and doubts when I remember God is with me and what Jesus has already done for me. I am honored by God's presence and that God would make God's dwelling place in me.

If you've never called on God, try dialing, I promise God will say "hello."

"When they call on me, I will answer; I will be with them in trouble. I will rescue and honor them." Psalm 91:15

May it be so in your life and mine."



Just me again, I really liked this reminder that we need to stay "connected" to God. The best way is through our prayer life. As a child I remember my Sunday school teacher telling me that God is waiting for my call and wants to hear from me. The teacher reminded me of a passage in Isaiah 65:24 KJV: *"Before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear."* I remember thinking that even before I even say a word, God knows what is on my heart and is ready to answer me.

So, I recommend you call on God, just dial. How? I'll share what that same Sunday school teach taught me to do: Just clasp your hands together, close your eyes, and begin to speak to God as if you were speaking to your closest friend. Go ahead and

pour your heart out. God already knows what you're feeling and just wants to help carry whatever is weighing you down. Let God carry your burdens.

PRAYER: Dear God, It's been one of those weeks! At times I felt so weary and lonely. I couldn't even bear to watch the news any longer – should PA open or should we remain in a state of "stay at home?" The divisiveness seemed more than I could stand at times. Then I received a nudge from you – a beautiful cardinal outside my window. A reminder that you are indeed present and ready for me to unload all the weariness and loneliness and give it over to you. My desire is for you to take all that is weighing me down and turn it over to you. Please, help me to leave it with you. Because Lord, my soul desire is to be used by you, to be filled by you, to serve you, to do your perfect will. Thank you for rescuing me once again. Amen.

Blessings and Prayers for our journey,

Pastor Narda