

Remember God is present

There is a story told of a bus traveling from Memphis, Tennessee to St. Louis, Missouri. It typically takes about 6 hours unless the bus driver leaves you stranded at a gas station. This happened to 45 passengers aboard a bus who waited 8 hours overnight for a replacement driver after the original driver abandoned them. They must have felt frustrated by the delay, anxious about the outcome, and impatient for a rescue.

In the bible, the story of Joseph who was sold to Egypt by his brothers, then falsely accused of a crime while being a servant of the king, and thrown in prison. I am sure he felt abandoned and forgotten by any human who might help him, he was stranded. Yet, the Lord was with Joseph and showed him favor. Eventually, the warden promoted Joseph to oversee fellow inmates, and whatever he did, he prospered. But despite God's presence and blessing, Joseph remained in prison for years.

You may have felt stranded whether in a hospital room, a jail cell, in your home, or in your own inner prison. No matter where you are, or how long you've been there, God's strength and kindness can reach you. Because, God is present everywhere. He can guide, strengthen and provide for you when it seems no one else can help. As we prepare ourselves during the Lenten season, to celebrate the risen Christ, always remember to reach for God even when we are not where we want to be in life!

together through prayer and service,

Deacon Mike