

Riding the Storm Out!

Proverbs 10:25 (NIV) shares, *“When the storm has swept by, the wicked are gone, but the righteous stand firm forever.”* This verse outlines that the righteous should expect storms in their lives. Jesus in John 15:33 (NIV) relayed, *“These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”*

A particularly stormy period for my family occurred in July of 1995. It began on a Monday as I dashed out to a friend’s car during a thunderstorm. Bystanders reported the lightening came within a foot of my head and then ricocheted away as if it hit a wall surrounding my body. I was jolted off my feet and fell into the car unhurt. As I calmed down, I asked the Lord, “What was that about? I was then reminded of the verse to “be still and know that I am God.”

The next day husband’s stepfather passed away and we had to travel to attend a very emotional funeral. God answered our prayers and even arranged for the salvation message to be shared during the funeral. Despite the emotional toll, everything went smoothly and we made the 18-hour trip without incident. We thought the storm had passed but we were only in the eye of the hurricane.

By that weekend my two-year old son became gravely ill. On Tuesday morning he was sleeping in the hospital battling a strong virus. The hospital staff prepared us for a 14-day hospital stay. Thankfully God healing touch had him well in just two days.

God is close to our hearts during stormy periods. Nahum 1:3a (NIV) relays, “His way is in the whirlwind and the storm.” Every squall is part of His plan. When the storm clouds gather around you, remember to be still and know God is near.