

FAITH BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

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Dear members and friends of FBF,

I have read about something sailors call “the cushion of the sea.” A storm may whip up the waves of the sea so that it becomes unsafe for even large vessels, but in the depths far below nothing is disturbed. Sailors on surface ships might try to outrun the storm, or they might have no choice but to batten down the hatches and hope for the best. But submarines can go beneath the tempest to find a gentle and peaceful rest on “the cushion of the sea” while the storm rages above.

God has given us something like “the cushion of the sea” for the stormy seasons in our own lives. Your cushion is that place where you meet the Lord; that place where you can simply be with Him; that place where you speak your mind and share your heart, and where He in turn hears your requests and imparts His peace. If you have such a place (even if the actual location changes from day to day), it will be dear to you, a secret hideaway that is to you a very real shelter from the storm.

When you first go below the surface of your troubles and problems and heartaches and disappointments, you’ll notice that the howl of the wind and crash of waves immediately become almost inaudible. Go a little deeper with God and they will seem to cease altogether. Oh, the storm will usually still be raging when you come back to the surface, as we all must (after all, there’s dinner to cook and bills to pay and the project deadline to meet and the child who needs attention).

But if you have found the secret of “the cushion of the sea,” you’ll simply be living on a different plane than the one whose only strategy is to run away from one storm after another, or the one who can think of nothing but to complain about God allowing the storms in the first place, or the one whose impulse is to look around for the Jonah who is to blame for the whole mess, or even the one who considers himself big enough and strong enough to handle any storm on his own. You won’t feel superior to them, because you used to be one of them, and you’ll know that too often you still are. But you will know the secret – and relief will always be close at hand any time you’ll have it.

⁶Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything.

Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done.

⁷If you do this, you will experience God's peace,

which is far more wonderful than the human mind can understand.

His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

(Philippians 4:6-7, New Living Translation)

Yours because His,

Chris