

# January

## Jesus - The One Who Doesn't Abandon Us

*Deuteronomy 31:8*

*"The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."*

When Moses was 120 years old, the Lord directed him to pass the leadership of the Israelites to Joshua. Moses had witnessed the Lord speaking from a burning bush. He had watched as the Red Sea split into two. He had seen water come from a rock. He watched as God's people were led by a pillar of fire and He saw the Glory of God descend onto the Tabernacle. His life had been marked by the supernatural presence of the Lord.

When it was time for Joshua to lead God's people, Moses told him, *"Be strong and courageous, for you must go with this people into the land that the Lord swore to their ancestors to give them, and you must divide it among them as their inheritance. The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."* - Deuteronomy 31:7-8

Joshua knew from the beginning that it wasn't just his leadership that would direct the people of God. It was the Lord Himself who would not forsake them. He would be with them.



Before we go any farther in our study, in what areas do you need the Lord to lead you? In what areas does it feel as if the Lord has left you alone?

---

---

---

As I was reading Deuteronomy 31, I was reminded of similar passage of scripture. Just before Jesus went to the cross, He spoke some comforting words to His disciples.

*"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me."* John 14:1

*"I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."* John 14:16-18

The verse in Deuteronomy begins with:  
*"Be strong and courageous."*

The passage in John begins with:  
*"Do not let your heart be troubled."*

The Lord tells Joshua:  
*I will never leave you nor forsake you.*

The Lord tells the disciples:  
*I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.*



I did a quick word study for our lesson today. When God said He would not forsake Joshua, He used this word: raphah. It is similar to the word rapha which means heal, but raphah means, abandon, become helpless, let go.

God said he would not abandon, let go, or allow Joshua to become helpless.

When God said He would not leave the disciples as orphans. He used the word, aphiémi. It means to send away, leave alone. The word orphan in Greek is orphanos. It means fatherless or desolate.

Do you see any similarities to the promise He made in both passages?

---

---

---

What do both of these passages tell us about who Jesus is in our lives today?

---

---

---

THE PROMISE IS THE SAME ACROSS  
SCRIPTURE. WE SERVE A GOD WHO  
PROMISES NOT TO ABANDON US



## Let's Pray

Father, You have shown us that when we place our trust in You, You will lead us. You will remain with us. You will go before us and will not abandon us. In our lives, we have faced many things. It may have seemed as if we were alone, but You were with us. You were guiding us. Teach us how to hear Your voice. Soften our hearts to know Your presence. We ask in Jesus's name, Amen.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

