

**AN ENCOURAGING WORD FOR TROUBLING TIMES #115** (by Rev. Dr. Alice Wolfe, 8/21/20)

**“Quit telling God how big your storm is and start telling the storm how big your God is.”**

As we all know, life is hard and challenging. It’s easy for us to become overwhelmed by the storms raging around us. It’s easy for us to become scared or confused by the constant changes and uncertainties thundering and swirling around us. What can we do? I find it extremely helpful to focus on our big, strong, and awesome God. As someone once said, **“Quit telling God how big your storm is and start telling the storm how big your God is.”**

How big is God? The Prophet Isaiah reminds us...

*“Do you not know? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood since the earth was founded? [God] sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in. He brings princes to naught and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing. No sooner are they planted, no sooner are they sown, no sooner do they take root in the ground, than he blows on them and they wither, and a whirlwind sweeps them away like chaff. ‘To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal?’ says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one and calls forth each of them by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing. Why do you complain, Jacob? Why do you say, Israel, ‘My way is hidden from the LORD; my cause is disregarded by my God’? Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.”*  
(Isaiah 40:21-31, NIV)

My friends, I don’t know what storms you are facing today, but God does. The God of all creation is far bigger and stronger than any storm you will ever face. If he raised Jesus from the dead, then he can raise you from the darkness and deadness of your sins and storms. God loves you and wants to help you. God is with you and will never leave you. Therefore, quit focusing on the size of your storms, and instead, focus on the size and greatness of your God!

**PRAYER:**

I praise you, loving, creator God! You are so big and strong and all-powerful! Nothing is impossible for you! Thank you that no matter what happens, you love me and are with me. Keep reminding me to keep my eyes and focus on you, and not the storms. Help me to know and live in your peace and strength. Help me always to look to you and trust you... In light of your almighty awesomeness, I pray for healing..., hope..., and peace... for myself..., my loved ones..., my enemies..., my community..., my nation... and my world... In Jesus’ name. Amen.

**LIVE IT!**

Every time you begin to feel overwhelmed by the storms and stresses of this world, change your focus. "Quit telling God how big your storm is and start telling the storm how big your God is," and help others do the same.

