Because God loves you, He Provides- Part 37

Did you know that God loves you more than anyone else could ever love you?

God proves His love to you by providing a way of escape from temptation. 1 Cor. 10:13, "No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can endure it."

The Greek word here for **escape** is *ekbasin* which means to have an exit or a way of escape. When I was in grade school, I remember some of our classes were upstairs in an old school building. I used to think the stairs that led up to the second floor were never ending. I really had never been in a multi-story building before. I recall that right outside the window where I was sitting in class, there was a "fire escape," which was basically a long slide built outside the window. Our teacher wanted to make sure we all knew what to do in case of a fire and so when we had our "fire drill," we were allowed to climb out the window and slide down this two-story fire escape. For a young boy who grew up on the farm, it was quite a thrill. Needless to say, it wasn't there for us to play on, but to be there when we really needed it; in case of emergency.

Isn't it just like our loving Father to provide for us a way of escape when temptations come along? And they do come along to all of us. The evil one wants to kill, steal, and destroy by tempting us to not trust in the God Who has given everything for us. Temptation is knowing what we <u>ought</u> to do, but thinking about what we <u>want</u> to do. Our passage today reminds us that God is faithful. He will not let us be tempted beyond what we can bear. How? By providing for us an escape route. Just like we knew the fire escape was there in case of an emergency, we can know that our faithful God is there to give us a way out of any temptation we face. How does this transpire? Jer. 33:3, "Call on Me and I will answer you; and I will show you great and mighty things which you cannot understand." Or as Paul tells us in Rom. 7:21-25, "So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. For in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!"

Dear Father, thank You that You are our way of escape in a world of temptations. In many ways, our flesh is strong and our spirit is weak. You provide a way out. You rescue us. Thank You that You are the way! In Jesus Name, Amen