



## A Circle of Light Devotion

*The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? (Ps. 27:1).*

The trip had been long--almost 550 miles round-trip for a brief meeting. Car trouble, a large repair bill, and an unexpected stay in a strange town had added to the stress.

But traveling alone was the hardest part. Recently widowed, she was not yet accustomed to the miles of quiet. She missed the warm and friendly chatter that had been a part of so many trips in the past. Miles sped by and darkness came. "Thank You, God, for getting me this far. Please take me safely home tonight," she prayed.

Suddenly, coming over a small hill she saw a breathtaking sight! On the prairie was a gigantic circle of lights--lights of homes and farms, irrigation wells and feedlots, radio towers and small towns. It reminded her of John 8:12, *Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*

As she drove on, a new and comforting thought entered her mind. "That is a picture of my life. It reminds me of all the times that God has been with me in the past." She thought of the parents who had lived the Christian faith they taught her, the teachers and friends who had challenged her, and the loving husband who had encouraged and supported her. As her eyes scanned the horizon, each light brought another memory. Some brought a smile; others brought pain; but through them all echoed Jesus' promise, "*I am with you always*" (Matt. 28:20).

The lights of her own small town grew brighter. Soon she would be safely home, and for that she would thank God again. She also prayed that she would remember the circle of lights and Jesus' promise.

**Personal Challenge:** Choose a light to symbolize God's presence in your life: the welcoming brightness of your own porch light, the eternal light in your church, the lighted digital dial of your alarm clock. Each time you see that light, thank God that He is with you, surrounding you with His light and love.

**Prayer:** Thank You, Lord, for traveling each step of life with me. Thank You for being the Light that shines through every joy and every sorrow. Forgive me when my faith flickers and grows dim. Help me to remember that Your love for me is always strong and bright. In Jesus' name. Amen.

**Suggested hymns:** "Abide, O Dearest Jesus" *LSB* 919, *LW* 287; or "Beautiful Savior" *LSB* 537, *LW* 507

All Scripture references are from the ESV.

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