**Walk with Jesus**

*“Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ.” 1 Peter 4:12-13*

Jesus paid a huge price so that you and I could live in heaven with him forever. We can’t even begin to appreciate what he did for us – the suffering he endured, the lives that he changed – but we can be grateful for his love. This love gives us courage and strength to face hard times just like Jesus did as God’s son.

No one likes to suffer, but remember that when you do, Jesus understands all about it, not just because he’s God, but because he himself suffered on earth too. He understands when you’re sad, lonely, angry and depressed because he experienced every one of those emotions. He felt betrayed when his closest friends handed him over to the Pharisees and pretended not to know him. He felt pain when he suffered under the whip and on the cross. And because he knows what it’s like to suffer on earth, Christ will be with you in your tough times.

**Dear Lord, I’m so glad that Jesus knows everything about me. Thank you that he chose to endure the cross. Please help me to endure the hard things I face. Amen.**

(\*from *Streams in the Desert for Kids: 366 Daily Devotions for Children*, based on the original book by L.B. Cowman, published by ZonderKidz, 2009.)