

## Devotional 1: 3/22 (1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:11)

In the Fall of the year, Linda, a young woman, was traveling alone up the rutted and rugged highway from Alberta to the Yukon. Linda didn't know you don't travel to Whitehorse alone in a rundown Honda Civic, so she set off where only four-wheel drives normally venture. The first evening she found a room in the mountains near a summit and asked for a 5 A.M. wakeup call so she could get an early start. She couldn't understand why the clerk looked surprised at that request, but as she awoke to early-morning fog shrouding the mountain tops, she understood.

Not wanting to look foolish, she got up and went to breakfast. Two truckers invited Linda to join them, and since the place was so small, she felt obliged. "Where are you headed?" one of the truckers asked.

'Whitehorse'

"In that little Civic? No way! This pass is DANGEROUS in weather like this."

"Well, I'm determined to try," was Linda's gutsy, if not very informed, response.

"Then I guess we're just going to have to hug you," the trucker suggested.

Linda drew back. "There's no way I'm going to let you touch me!"

"Not like THAT!" the truckers chuckled. "We'll put one truck in front of you and one in the rear. In that way, we'll get you through the mountains."

All that foggy morning Linda followed the two red dots in front of her and had the reassurance of a big escort behind as they made their way safely through the mountains.

*When we find ourselves caught in the fog during dangerous passage through life, we need to be "hugged" with fellow Christians who know the way and can lead safely ahead of us, and with others behind, gently encouraging us along, we, too, can pass safely. - Don Graham*

- The scripture verse and this story point to the importance of going through life with God and people who will support and encourage you. That is why God gives us the church to help be there for us and to remind us that God cares and loves us
- What happened in Linda's story is something we want to strive for in life. To seek help and be grateful for those that are there for us and to assist those who are in need of help in life's journey. We all can rest on the promise that God is always with us and hugging us the entire way.

## Prayer

Dear, God. Thank you for being with us. Please show us when we need to ask for help and find ways to help and encourage others when they need help. Amen