

40 Days to Easter: a Journey of Transformation

March 1st

Daily Devotional #5

Part 1

*“The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son,
and they will call Him Immanuel” –
which means, “God with us.”
Matthew 1:23a NIV*

Have you ever contemplated this simple, elegant, and ultimately life-altering verse? I mean really, really thought about it, allowed yourself to dream about it and its implications to this life and to all of eternity?

This verse really is that big.

I've been thinking about this verse... allowing it to take up residence in my waking thoughts, bouncing around in my brain, echoing in my heart all last week as we prepared to lay Ray's earthly body to rest.

What a glorious, what a fascinating thought to think – with great wonder – that my friend, my father-in-law, my beloved's daddy was walking with, listening to, talking with, and looking into the face of “God with us.” What an incredible honor and privilege we have in store for us! What a joy Ray is engulfed in at this very moment and every moment throughout eternity's forever!

This love, this hope, this Story is ours to hold tightly, and share freely. We are the continuing presence of God in this world... We are the ambassadors of the Story of greatest hope and love... We dwell in the Presence of the One we shall dwell with forever, and we are, in every moment, His Presence in and to this world. What a gift we have been given and we have-in-abundance to give away.

May we live His love, shine His light, and
proclaim with our lives, God Is With Us,
Emmanuel Is Here! There is hope. There is
love. There is, here is Emmanuel.

Blessings my friends... in you I see hope and
love... and Emmanuel,
Danny

