

October 22
Wednesday

ONE WHO UNDERSTANDS

My friend's husband was in the last stages of dementia. In his first introduction to the nurse who was assigned to care for him, he reached out for her arm and stopped her. He said he wanted to introduce her to his best friend—one who loved him deeply.

READ:

Psalm 139:7-12

Since no one else was in the hall, the nurse thought he was delusional. But as it turned out he was speaking of Jesus. She was deeply touched but had to hurry on to care for another patient. When she returned, the darkness had closed in again and the man was no longer lucid.

The LORD searches all hearts and understands all the intent of the thoughts.

—1 Chronicles 28:9

THE BIBLE IN ONE YEAR:

■ Isaiah 65-66

■ 1 Timothy 2

Even though this man had descended into the darkness of dementia, he knew that the Lord was his best Friend. God dwells in the fathomless depth that is our soul. He can pierce the darkest mind and assure us of His tender, loving care. Indeed, the darkness shall not hide us from Him (Ps. 139:12).

We do not know what the future holds for us or those we love. We too may descend into the darkness of mental illness, Alzheimer's, or dementia as we age. But even there the Lord's hand will lead us and His right hand will hold us tight (v.10). We cannot get away from His love and personal care. —David Roper

God knows each winding way I take,

And every sorrow, pain, and ache;

And me He never will forsake—

He knows and loves His own. —Bosch

Jesus loves me. This I know.