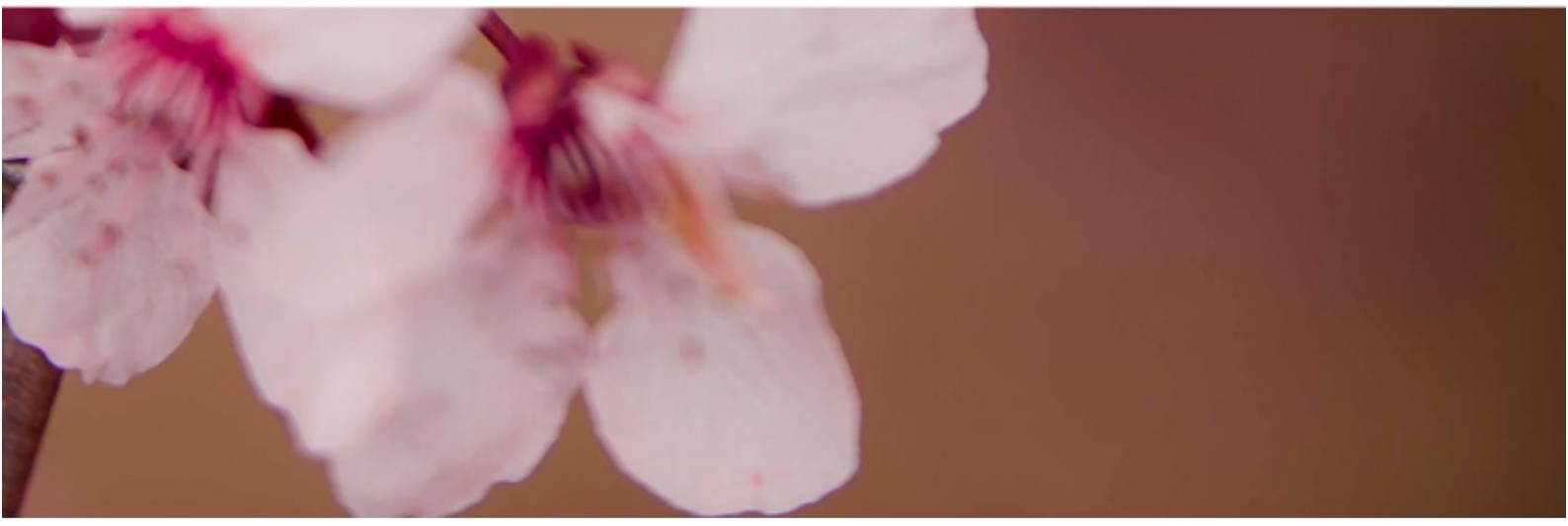




BIBLE STUDY

Psalm 91

DEEP DIVE



Psalm 91 is one of the frequently quoted scriptures when we talk about divine protection and is also known as the psalm for the security of the one who trusts in the LORD.

As a student of the Bible, you will observe that each verse of scripture is loaded with depth and riches. In this study we're going to dig deeper into the Psalm verse by verse. This will help us unearth some of the riches and also help make the scripture real to us.

May the Lord bless you as you go through this study.



Day 1 Dwelling

“He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.” Psalms 91:1

Who is the person that abides under the shadow of the Almighty? It's the person that dwells in the secret place. One thing that jumps out in this verse is the use of the words 'abide' and 'dwell'. These both suggest a long-term commitment and deep relationship, it's not casual or inconsistent. This tells us that God wants us to take our walk with Him seriously.

“Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.” Galatians 6:7

“Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: “The Lord knows those who are His,” and, “Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity.”” II Timothy 2:19

'But the time is coming—indeed it's here now—when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship him that way.' John 4:23

Another thing is that there are many secret places - people can dwell in the secret place of dependence on self, others may dwell in other non-godly places and only visit God's presence once in a while. God isn't mocked, He knows those who genuinely desire to spend time with Him and have their hearts fixed on following Him.

“for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.” Philippians 2:13

No one is perfect and we all make mistakes, but God looks at our heart and sees when we're pressing into deepening our relationship with Him. And through the Holy Spirit He helps us because we can't strive in our own strength. But the Holy Spirit enables us by transforming us from within and placing a hunger for the things of God in us.

Prayer: Lord make me a person who dwells in Your secret place.

Day 2 Shadows

“He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.” Psalms 91:1

The psalmist tells us that dwellers of God’s secret place abide under the shadow of the Almighty. What does it mean to abide under God’s shadow and why are shadows important? The Bible tells us that there are different types of shadows in operation in life.

“Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.” Psalms 23:4

“the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light. And for those who lived in the land where death casts its shadow, a light has shined.” Matthew 4:16

“The angel replied, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the baby to be born will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God.” Luke 1:35

“As a result of the apostles’ work, sick people were brought out into the streets on beds and mats so that Peter’s shadow might fall across some of them as he went by.” Acts 5:15

When the Bible talks about types of shadows, it speaks to the type of spirit in operation either in a person, a group of people or an environment. When the Bible speaks of casting shadows, it speaks of the impact of the prevailing spirit which acts almost like a blanket covering the person or people which are under the influence of that spirit. You may have noticed that there are some areas where almost everyone seems to be acting in a particular manner (good or bad). Where you see such, it means that there is a prevailing spirit in operation that has cast a shadow of that behaviour, trait, experience over the people.

There are negative shadows that can be cast on people which bring darkness and evil. But there’s another shadow that can be cast over a man that’s brings light, healing, holiness, purity, blessing, grace and so much more. This is the shadow that the Lord casts on us when we dwell in His presence. It prevails over any other negativity that may be in operation in our surroundings because light always overcomes darkness. With this in mind let’s pray with understanding.

Prayer: Father help me to dwell in your secret place so that I will constantly remain under your shadow and your shadow alone.

Day 3

Security

“I will say of the LORD, “He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust.””
Psalms 91:2

The Lord is our refuge, a safe place, a place of protection from danger or trouble. He is a fortress, a place of exceptional security which is a defence from opposing forces. This tells us that the Lord performs a dual role of defence and offence keeping us safe and pushing the enemy away. When the psalmist looked at these two attributes of God, it's clear why He chose to trust in God.

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.” Proverbs 3:5-6

“Unless the Lord builds a house, the work of the builders is wasted. Unless the Lord protects a city, guarding it with sentries will do no good.” Psalms 127:1

There are many things we place our trust in without even realising. Some may trust in the bank balance or place of work as a security. Some may trust in their reputation, pedigree, social standing or network. While there's nothing wrong in any of these the Bible makes it clear that our trust should first and foremost be in the Lord. Everything else outside of God can be shaken.

Money can fail, jobs can be lost, personal networks can lose value. But God alone stands secure forever. When we recognise this, it helps us put everything else in the right perspective. That's why we're taught in Proverbs to trust in the Lord with all our heart and acknowledge Him. Then He will order our steps in a secure manner to who, where, what and when we should move. And because it is the Lord in charge, the enemy has no say in our progress.

Prayer: Lord, help me recognise you as my refuge and fortress and help me to keep my trust in you alone.

Day 4

Protection

“For he will rescue you from every trap and protect you from deadly disease.” Psalms 91:3

What a wonderful assurance we have in God that He will rescue us from every trap. And not only that, we have divine protection not just from things we can see, but also things we cannot see such as diseases.

“No weapon that is formed against you will succeed; And every tongue that rises against you in judgment you will condemn. This [peace, righteousness, security, and triumph over opposition] is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, And this is their vindication from Me,” says the LORD.” Isaiah 54:17

Will traps be set and weapons formed? Yes they will, that’s just part of life. However we have this assurance from God, which tells us that we do not need to be anxious about what other people may be doing or saying about us. If you are grounded in the Lord and dwell in His secret place, anyone planning anything against you is engaging in an exercise in futility - it won’t work. And the wonderful part is that you don’t have to engineer a process around your safety. God has already done it for you. What is required from you is alignment with God in prayer and Bible study so you don’t leave His shadow.

“He forgives all my sins and heals all my diseases.” Psalms 103:3

We have diseases that can affect our bodies which God has promised us protection and healing for. But things that affect our spirit may not be so visible to the eye. When a child is sick one the first thing that the parents notice is poor appetite. When your spirit is ailing, you begin to lose appetite for the things of God and things that you may have overcome before may start showing up in you again. The primary cause for ailments in our spirit is lack of prayer. When we neglect prayer as a means of fellowship and communion with God (not just showing up with a list of things we want God to do for us), then our spirit begins to weaken which gives the enemy room to begin to manipulate things in our lives unhindered.

Prayer: Lord help me to prioritise my connection to you daily so my spirit is always healthy.



Day 5

Armour

'He will cover you with his feathers. He will shelter you with his wings. His faithful promises are your armor and protection.' Psalms 91:4

This verse evokes a picture of a mother hen covering her chicks with her feathers. It speaks to a loving and protective parent who is always there for us to run to for safety. Not only do the feathers cover us, the wings hide us from the view of whatever made us run for safety. We can't see it and it can't see us, the only thing that's visible is our protector.

'The Lord is my strength and my [impenetrable] shield; My heart trusts [with unwavering confidence] in Him, and I am helped' Psalms 28:7a

'The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my savior; my God is my rock, in whom I find protection. He is my shield, the power that saves me, and my place of safety.' Psalms 18:2

The word of the Lord is an impenetrable armour that covers us and deflects the attacks from opposing forces. The more we study, meditate on and speak God's word, the stronger our armour becomes. The stronger the armour, the less opportunity there is for us to fall away from God's truth and plans for our lives.

'If you fail under pressure, your strength is too small.' Proverbs 24:10

The pressure is steadily rising in the times we're in, so this is the time to build up strength in the secret place. Training for battle doesn't happen on the battlefield, it's done in times of peace. Don't wait for a negative situation to occur before you begin strengthening yourself. Ask the Holy Spirit for grace to prepare you for whatever may lie ahead of you so your armour will be intact and you'll be well hidden as a dweller in God's secret place.

Prayer: Lord prepare me and strengthen my armour for whatever may lie ahead of me.



Day 6 Authority

“You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, Nor of the arrow that flies by day,”
Psalms 91:5

“You will never worry about an attack of demonic forces at night nor have to fear a spirit of darkness coming against you.” Psalms 91:5 TPT

We live in a world where what we see is controlled by what we do not see (remember our series on the seen and unseen realms) and so it can be tricky navigating what you cannot see. The Bible also tells us that there’s a part of the unseen realm that wages war against believers daily. So we’re not only navigating but also wrestling with what we cannot see.

“For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.” Ephesians 6:12

How then can we expect to win with all these coming against us? The answer is in Jesus and the price He paid for us.

“Now he is far above any ruler or authority or power or leader or anything else—not only in this world but also in the world to come. God has put all things under the authority of Christ and has made him head over all things for the benefit of the church.” Ephesians 1:21-22

“He raised us up with Christ the exalted One, and we ascended with him into the glorious perfection and authority of the heavenly realm, for we are now co-seated as one with Christ!” Ephesians 2:6

When Jesus resurrected and ascended into heaven, He was given the ultimate authority over everything both seen and unseen. And there’s one thing it’s important to recognise about the spiritual realm- it functions on hierarchy and authority. When you exercise your authority as a believer, every force has no choice but to respond. But you can only exercise to the extent that you know what your rights are, which are all available in God’s word. Beyond the ‘head knowledge’ of reading the written word, it’s in the place of prayer that you will receive revelation about the truth of this word and then successfully wield your Christ given authority.

Prayer: Lord, let the spirit of revelation rest on me as I read your word. Open my eyes to the truth in your word and the authority I have in you.



Day 7

Fear Not!

'Don't fear a thing! Whether by night or by day, demonic danger will not trouble you, nor will the powers of evil launched against you.' Psalms 91:6

One thing that the enemy uses to discourage us is fear, but the Lord will not have us fear anything at any time. Fear is a powerful spirit that constantly needs to be put in check. There are times when the fear of something harms more than the thing we're fearing. This is because fear makes us amplify the potential impact of something in our lives, beyond what it may actually do in reality. This causes us to make irrational decisions that may harm us or others around us much more than what we're afraid of.

'You drew near on the day I called to You; You said, "Do not fear." ' Lamentations 3:57

'On the day I called, You answered me; and You made me bold and confident with [renewed] strength in my life.' Psalms 138:3

'And now, O Lord, hear their threats, and give us, your servants, great boldness in preaching your word.' Acts 4:29

Fear cannot stand in the presence of God. When we dig into God's presence we are strengthened and emboldened in a manner that we cannot engineer on our own. We begin to see things from God's perspective which reminds of who and whose we are.

'Little children, you can be certain that you belong to God and have conquered them, for the One who is living in you is far greater than the one who is in the world.' 1 John 4:4

As a believer who has received the Holy Spirit, the One in you is greater than the one in the world, so it doesn't matter if the attempts come during the day, night or whenever. Call on the name that is above all other names and let He who is greater give you strength, boldness and all you need to overcome.

Prayer: Lord help me realize the greatness of who You are so I can see the smallness of everything else.



Day 8

Hedge

“A thousand may fall at your side and ten thousand at your right hand, but danger will not come near you.” Psalms 91:7

Imagine a situation where there is large scale chaos and despondency around you. One thousand to ten thousand people is a lot of people succumbing to a terrible situation. It could be fear, a pandemic, an economic crisis. But the Lord promises us that whatever danger befalls others will not come near us. We will see and hear what is going on, but we will not be participants in it. We will not be part of the statistics as those impacted by this crisis are being numbered.

“For I,’ declares the LORD, ‘will be a wall of fire around her [protecting her from enemies], and I will be the glory in her midst.’” Zechariah 2:5

“Have You not put a hedge [of protection] around him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands [and conferred prosperity and happiness upon him], and his possessions have increased in the land.” Job 1:10

Note the words: ‘danger will not come near you’. Meaning danger may have tried to have its way, but observed that there’s something about you that won’t let it come near. What’s preserving you is not your intellect, business savvy or professionalism. It’s the wall of fire that the Lord places around those that dwell in His presence. It’s the divine hedge of protection that preserves and prospers us even when everything around us seems to be crashing.

“Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.” Psalms 139:23-24

“Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there.” Galatians 5:24

Remember, God’s presence is a heart condition not a physical location. We need the help of the Holy Spirit to search the deepest parts of our hearts and highlight the things there that may take us away from His presence and open us up to the dangers rampant in the world. Let this be our prayer today.

Prayer: Holy Spirit please search me, show me the things in me that offend you and take them away. Uproot everything in my heart that’s not from you.



Day 9 Spectator

“You will only [be a spectator as you] look on with your eyes and witness the [divine] repayment of the wicked [as you watch safely from the shelter of the Most High].”
Psalms 91:8

Yesterday we looked at the power of the hedge of protection God places around those who dwell in His secret place. The Bible then goes further to tell us that not only will we be preserved, we will also observe the repayment of the wicked ones from a position of safety.

“Not so the wicked [those disobedient and living without God are not so]. But they are like the chaff [worthless, dead, without substance] which the wind drives away.”
Psalm 1:4

In Psalm 1, we are told of the characteristics of godly and the wicked and tells us what will ultimately happen to each one. When we live in disobedience to God, we are vulnerable to whatever life throws at us. Where a personal relationship with God and the word of God are not available to act as anchors for our lives, then we will end up being tossed like chaff and blown in any direction the wind likes.

“But anyone who hears my teaching and doesn’t obey it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on sand. When the rains and floods come and the winds beat against that house, it will collapse with a mighty crash.” Matthew 7:26-27

“...Then he got up and rebuked the wind and waves, and suddenly there was a great calm. The disciples were amazed. “Who is this man?” they asked. “Even the winds and waves obey him!”” Matthew 8:26b-27

“And I have put my words in your mouth and hidden you safely in my hand.” Isaiah 51:16a

The winds of life will blow on both the disobedient and the obedient. Everyone will face some form of storm in life - be it general or personal. The critical thing is what sustains and preserves you through the storm, what keeps you rooted when the wind blows. Anyone choosing to live outside of God puts the responsibility for preservation on their own shoulders, rather than on the shoulders of the one who can preserve you and command the storm to be still. That’s too big a risk to take with life.

Prayer: Lord help me recognise and reverence your awesome power and hide me safely in your hand.



Day 10 Choices

“If you make the Lord your refuge, if you make the Most High your shelter,” Psalms 91:9

We have a choice whether or not we make the Lord our refuge, He won't force Himself on us. So sometimes we're waiting on God meanwhile He is holding the door open, waiting for us to walk in.

“For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.” II Corinthians 1:20

“If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.” John 15:7

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.” Revelation 3:20

Jesus has done His part. He has given us the victory, but we can only fully partake if we have a relationship with Him. He is always calling, always reaching out, but are we responding? Or are we taking it for granted that we will automatically have what we want just because we want it? When we pay attention to the Bible, we will observe there are a few 'I's'. As with any healthy relationship, it's give and take. If we do our part, then we are guaranteed that the Lord will respond and do His.

“But what the Lord has planned will stand forever. His thoughts never change.” Psalms 33:11

If we really abide and desire a close walk with God then we should also be willing to change our posture from what we can get to what we can give. Imagine living with someone who only cared about their own needs and never asked you about yours. God has plans, He has an agenda He needs fulfilled here on earth and as believers we have a pivotal role to play in executing His plans. As dwellers in the secret place, God's needs should become our needs also.

Prayer: Lord what would you have me do for you today?

Day 11

Provision

'There shall no evil befall you, nor any plague or calamity come near your tent.' Psalm 91:10

The world is in a state right now. Evil is practiced seemingly with impunity, news of calamities seem to be a daily affair. Yet we have this promise from the Lord, that in spite of all that is going on we will be insulated if we dwell in His presence.

'There will be mighty and violent earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences (plagues: malignant and contagious or infectious epidemic diseases which are deadly and devastating); and there will be sights of terror and great signs from heaven.'
Luke 21:11

Jesus told us thousands of years ago what we would face many challenges in the last days, be it famines (recessions), and different types of plagues. Make no mistake, heaven is not confused or surprised about what is going on right now and what will happen in the future. That is why the Lord made provision for the safety of His children in these difficult times.

'Only I can tell you the future before it even happens. Everything I plan will come to pass, for I do whatever I wish.' Isaiah 46:10

'But the word of the Lord remains forever.' 1 Peter 1:25a

There is ample provision for our security in these perilous times and that security is in the presence of God, the maker of all things seen and unseen. The Lord made this provision available to us long before anyone here was ever born and the provision will remain long after we are gone, should Jesus tarry.

With this in mind, we should acknowledge what is going on around us and take the necessary steps in wisdom, but with the understanding that ultimately the protection, provision and enablement we require for this season and beyond is available in the Lord's presence alone.

Prayer: Lord, you created a haven of security for me even before I took my first breath here on earth. I thank you for your protection and preservation thus far and ask for the grace to desire your presence more than anything else. I ask for help in the areas I am struggling to yield to you and the grace to dwell constantly in your secret place.



Day 12 Angels

“God sends angels with special orders to protect you wherever you go, defending you from all harm. If you walk into a trap, they’ll be there for you and keep you from stumbling.”
Psalms 91:11-12 TPT

The same way we see public personalities, state officials, etc with personal bodyguards, as dwellers of the secret place of the Most High, we also have our own personal security personnel assigned to us. Just because we cannot see them doesn’t mean they’re not there. They have been given specific instructions concerning our welfare and protection so that we can continue to be spiritually productive and useful to the kingdom of God.

“Are not all the angels ministering spirits sent out [by God] to serve (accompany, protect) those who will inherit salvation? [Of course they are!]” Hebrews 1:14 AMP

God is very mindful of us and He understands our limitations as human beings. That’s why He has given us both the Holy Spirit to dwell in us and the angels to work with us.

“Praise the Lord, you angels, you mighty ones who carry out his plans, listening for each of his commands.” Psalms 103:20

“A divine decision [given by God] is on the lips of the king [as His representative]”
Proverbs 16:10a

Angels are designed to carry out God’s plans here on earth and so they follow what the Lord says. The Bible tells us we are a royal priesthood and as kings, when we speak God’s word we act as His representatives. When we speak God’s word over a situation, we activate the ministry of angels to go into operation to make that situation a reality for us, provided it is in alignment with God’s will. When we don’t spend time studying and understanding God’s word, we may speak amiss and not get the full benefits of this assistance God has made available to us.

“Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in false humility and worship of angels” Colossians 2:18a

Please be clear that angels are not to be worshipped as some do. They are God’s creations just as we are, sent with a specific assignment to help believers accomplish what God set out for us to do while here on earth.

Prayer: Lord I thank you for being mindful of me and sending angels to support me while here on earth so I don’t walk into traps or stumble. I bless your Holy name and ask for the grace to work effectively with all that you have made available to me.



Day 13 Conqueror

“You’ll even walk unharmed among the fiercest powers of darkness, trampling every one of them beneath your feet!” Psalms 91:13 TPT

When we dwell in the secret place, we walk in the full authority conferred to us by Jesus which protects us and places us above any devices of the powers of darkness. These powers may be fierce, but the presence we carry puts them beneath our feet without any fear of harm coming to us. We move with boldness, power and authority in the name of Jesus!

“Who makes His angels spirits, His ministers a flame of fire.” Psalms 104:4

“What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?”
Romans 8:31

“for the One who is living in you is far greater than the one who is in the world.”
1 John 4:4b

As a dweller in the secret place, you become a flame of fire in the spirit so nothing can stand in your way. You carry tremendous power and authority based on your walk with the Lord. When we create room for Jesus to really be Lord of our lives and allow the Holy Spirit to lead us, we have nothing to fear. Because we have the confidence that wherever we’re led by the Holy Spirit provision has already been made for protection and victory.

“For all who are allowing themselves to be led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.”
Romans 8:14

We make choices daily regarding who we allow to lead us. We could be led by the systems of the world, by the enemy, by ourselves or by the Holy Spirit. Today let’s make a conscious decision early in the day to be led by the Holy Spirit.

Prayer: Dear Holy Spirit, I recognise your presence and yield to your authority over my life. I willingly yield to you and ask that you take complete control of my day. Order my steps so I that all I am and all I do today will bring Jesus glory.

Day 14

Heart Condition

“The Lord says, “I will rescue those who love me. I will protect those who trust in my name.” Psalms 91:14

The Lord lists out clearly the criteria for those He will rescue and protect- those who love and put their trust in Him. Let’s explore these in some more detail.

“If you love me, obey my commandments.” John 14:15

“The Lord says: “These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship of me is based on merely human rules they have been taught.” Isaiah 29:13

“The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” 1 Samuel 16:7b

When God speaks of love, He’s not talking about an emotion as we tend to define love. From God’s perspective our love is demonstrated by our obedience to Him. We cannot claim to love the Lord and at the same time be consistently disobedient to His instructions, either those in the Bible or those He may have spoken to us directly. He’s not interested in anything that doesn’t come from a heart that really seeks to love and worship Him. It’s not about being perfect and never making mistakes, rather it’s about genuinely wanting to walk with and please God whether or not people see what you’re doing.

“Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we will remember and trust in the name of the LORD our God.” Psalms 20:7

“Trust in and rely confidently on the LORD with all your heart and do not rely on your own insight or understanding.” Proverbs 3:5

The Lord also wants us to trust Him in every area of our lives as by so doing we acknowledge that He is indeed Lord over all that concerns us. He wants us to ask Him what we should do first and not after we have tried things our own way and run out of options. The Lord is ready, willing and more than able to take care of us, but we must do our part by consistently asking the Holy Spirit to examine the state of our hearts when it comes to obedience and trust.

Prayer: Lord help me to trust and obey you at all times.

Day 15

Assurance

“He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him.” Psalms 91:15

The Almighty, the Most High, the maker of the heavens and the earth commits that He will answer, be with, deliver and honour those who dwell in His secret place. There’s no area left unaddressed in this guarantee.

“When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flame scorch you. For I am the LORD your God, The Holy One of Israel, your Savior”
Isaiah 43:2-3a

“for my Father has given them to me, and he is more powerful than anyone else. No one can snatch them from the Father’s hand.” John 10:29

In this life we will face many challenges but we have the assurance that we will not walk through the challenges alone and that the Lord Himself will take us through them. But the prerequisite for this is that we choose to dwell in the secret place.

“And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.” Jeremiah 29:13

“He revealed his character to Moses and his deeds to the people of Israel.” Psalms 103:7

Until we begin to seek God’s presence from the depth of our hearts, we’re merely paying lip service. In spite of all the miracles the Israelites saw in the desert, they weren’t interested in getting to know who God is and were comfortable with Moses taking on that responsibility. That’s why Moses knew God’s character not just His acts.

How does this apply to us today? With the gift of the Holy Spirit we have the opportunity to seek God by ourselves. The Lord designed the body of Christ such that we all fellowship together, growing and sharpening one another while we also develop our personal walk with Him. The two go hand-in-hand. The extent to which we know God personally is the extent to which we can trust and obey Him.

Prayer: Lord, give me a hunger to know you for myself. Let your Spirit reveal to me aspects of you I don’t know yet.

Day 16 Salvation

“With a long life I will satisfy him and I will let him see My salvation.” Psalms 91:16

Psalm 91 is rich in promises of security, provision and protection here on earth. But life on earth is just one side of our relationship with God. While we should be grateful for His many promises in the Bible and in this psalm specifically, let's not forget that this world isn't all there is and we're to use our time here on earth to prepare to spend eternity with Him.

“Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven.” Luke 10:20

“And this is what God has testified: He has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have God's Son does not have life.” 1 John 5:11-12

During his earthly ministry, Jesus was very clear about the importance of placing a priority on where we will spend eternity. He paid the price for our sins so that sin would no longer separate us from the Father either now or in eternity.

“let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.” Hebrews 12:1b-2a

The legitimate cares of life can drown out the reality that there is an eternity to prepare for. In the busyness of life, we may begin to relegate spending time in the secret place to an afterthought. By so doing we run the risk of forgetting that we are in a race and may inadvertently allow sin to have dominion over us in certain areas, in spite of the price Christ paid for our victory. Let's rededicate ourselves to Him today, it's not too late to turn back and allow the Holy Spirit to help us become permanent residents in the secret place.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, I thank you for paying the price for my sins and purchasing my freedom. I repent of putting other things before you and ask for your forgiveness. I also ask for your grace to help me prioritise my walk with you over everything and everyone else. Help me to keep my eyes fixed on you so I never stop dwelling in your secret place.

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