

Take Strength from Scripture, Song & Supplication!

Psalm 27; John 15:1-6

Introduction: It's been a cold snowy day. The sun has sunk below the horizon and the night is dark. You might have been lonely, stressed, tested, or discouraged today. You might have been encouraged, blessed, strengthened today. Whatever your circumstances, I hope you have found with the Psalmist "*The Lord is my strength and my salvation.*"

Tonight to encourage our hearts, strengthen our wills, and refresh our souls we are going to alter our normal prayer meeting format to a cycle: We will meditate on a Scripture verse, sing about the theme of the verse, and affirm in prayer the truths of the verse. If we have happy hearts, let us praise the Lord in song! If our hearts are heavy, let us strengthen our faith and commit our cares to God in prayer. Let us admonish one another in song and seek our God's face in praise and prayer! We can confess "*There is sunshine in my soul today*" (488)¹!

Psalm 27:1-6

1. The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

God illuminates our way; He is our light! There is no darkness in Him. He has redeemed us. We are safe, for He is our rock, our fortress. Who can snatch us from the Savior? No one! (Romans 8).

- **Songs of response:** 576 *A Shelter in the Time of Storm* (1,4)/ 489 *Count Your Blessings* (1,2,4)
- **Prayer of trust:** Praise God our Savior for saving us from sin! Jesus Christ is our righteousness! The Holy Spirit produces His fruit in our lives! Thank Him! Praise Him!

2. The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

² *When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell.* ³ *Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident.*

We never should be afraid- God is our God! Be strong & very courageous (Joshua 1)!

¹ All songs are online at <https://www.prayer tents.com/hymns>

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- **Songs of response:** 476 *Safe in the Arms of Jesus*/ 400 *There's a Royal Banner for Display (1,2)*.
 - **Prayer of request and confidence:** Praise God for past deliverances from discouragement, spiritual oppression, victories over our Goliaths! Seek the Lord to grant continued victories; He is the Lord of Hosts who leads us into battle and grants victory over temptation (1 Corinthians 10:13).
3. ⁴**One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple.**⁵*For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock.* Cf. **John 15:1-6**

Fellowship with God may be one of the sweetest benefits of salvation! How we long to spend time with our dear Redeemer! He abides with us!

- **Songs of Response:** 29 *Come Christians, Join to Sing*/ 93 *Jesus Is All the World to Me*
 - **Prayer of fellowship with God and His people:** We delight ourselves in our God. He is ever with us! He is our greatest love! We delight in His Wonderful people, fellow redeemed saints who are fellow heirs with us and with Christ!
4. ⁶**And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me: therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the LORD.**

The Holy Spirit imparts love, joy, peace, gentleness goodness to us; in God is fullness of joy! We have a peace that passes understanding and joy supernal!

- **Songs of Response:** 46 *Praise Him! Praise Him!*/ 101 *There Is No Name So Sweet on Earth*
- **Prayer of Praise & Request:** Ask the Lord to lift our heads above every discouragement, temptation, worldly allure. Praise Him for His presence in the midst of His people with us tonight!

Conclusion: We will sing a final song as our prayer of consecration tonight: 144 *Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross!*