



Seek His Face

When You said “Seek My Face” [in prayer, require My presence as your greatest need], my heart said to You, “Your face O Lord, I will seek” [on the authority of Your Word].

Psalm 27:8 AMP

At the age of 13 I prayed for God to give me a song with lyrics to sing to Him. He replied, “Seek My Face.” So, I began to just pray, worship and meditate on God’s Word more. I read some of the verses from Psalm 27 often. God began to show up during these times at the piano and I would soak in His Words and presence. It’s easy to get caught up in everything we must do and put God on the side. He wants to be our main priority #1. Then, He gives us everything else we need. One day while I was spending time together with God, he answered the prayer to give me music and lyrics to sing to Him. The words and music all came pouring in a clear flowing download that was instant. I did not have to try to write or create it, God did it, I was simply to play it, write it down and learn it.

Bringing this to God meant He created what He wanted, the moment He wanted, and I simply received it. This didn’t come when I wanted at all, I learned to wait on God, and to simply delight in hanging out with Him. He is my closest Friend. His thoughts and ways are much higher than mine and yours. I prayed for one song to sing to God, but He has never stopped giving me music since the day this song came in. Maybe you are praying for something right now and wonder when God will answer. Only God knows the exact moment we really need something. Give it fully to God and seek His face, delight in hanging out with Him. Trust that He will answer you in the most perfect way and give more than you asked for!

“But first and most importantly seek (aim at, strive after) His kingdom and His righteousness [His way of doing and being right-the attitude and character of God], and all these things will be given to you also.”

Matthew 6:33 AMP





Come to Me

Come to me all who are weary and heavily burdened (by religious rituals that provide no peace), and I will give you rest (refreshing your soul with salvation). Take my yoke upon you and learn from me (following me as my disciples) for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest (renewal, blessed quiet) for your souls.

Matthew 11:28-30

Come to Jesus, leave behind the heavy burden of legalistic, religious, man-made rituals. Allow God to lift the weight you have been carrying. In this fast-paced world, especially in America, we run all over, staying so busy we often don't fully connect with God. He doesn't need us to run ourselves to exhaustion trying to figure everything out. We simply need to come to Jesus and linger in His presence until we have let go fully and stop trying to carry the heavy load, He didn't give us.

Matthew 11:30 says, "*for my yoke is easy [to bear] and my burden is light.*"

A yoke is like a brace placed on the neck of two oxen and causes them to walk together at the same pace, and they can pull a heavy load together. They must walk together, and one cannot go ahead of the other. Jesus didn't give us any load to carry but ourselves, He tells us He is gentle and humble, and we will find rest when we walk with Him throughout our day. Life becomes heavy when we pick up man-made rituals that are impossible to keep. Walking in step with Jesus we find true peace and rest for our souls.





God is Our Shield

*For You O Lord, bless the righteous man
[the one who is in right standing with You];
You surround him with favor as with a shield.*


Psalm 5:12 AMP

God wants to shield us from the attacks of the enemy. To remain in right standing with God we need to always submit and draw near to Him. (James 4:7-8)


So submit to [the authority of] God. Resist the devil [stand firm against him] and he will flee from you. Come close to God with a contrite heart and he will come close to you. Wash your hands you sinners and purify your unfaithful hearts you double minded people. As we fully submit to God and obey Him, He surrounds us with a protective shield of his favor.

God gave Esther favor with the king as she risked her own life to save her people. God's favor on Esther protected His people and destroyed Haman's wicked plot. We need God's favor working in and around us in all things acting as our protective shield. There are areas of my life that need to be fully submitted to God.

I just ate a donut this morning with chocolate icing. It's not helping me stay healthy at all! I need to put it down as God has been dealing with me about eating healthy. As I lay down the wrong foods and pick up the right ones God will continue the healing work, he has for me. He is working night and day on our behalf and needs us to cooperate for success to happen. We need God's protective shield in every area of our lives over our family, our homes, our work, our travel, our education, our food and water, our pets, our mind, body, spirit etc.



Can you think of an area where God's favor has been a protective shield over your life?





God is Our Strength

But He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties.

For when I am weak then I am strong.

II Corinthians 12:9-11 AMP

Each one of us have weaknesses and strengths. Sometimes it’s easy to become overwhelmed by a weakness that is extreme. For example, sometimes my body gets weak and it’s hard to get moving or do all the activities and work that I want to get done. It’s beyond frustrating.

Recently when I was going through this again, I remembered God has always restored my strength when I focused on what He says. I remember the joy of the Lord is our strength! Once I prayed during a season of physical weakness when everything was very hard to do and God said, “My grace is sufficient!” These are not the words I wanted to hear. I didn’t get my answer in a microwave miracle. But over time, I learned more and stayed in this desperate need for God everything state of mind.

As we lean on God and His strength, miracles happen every day for us. Even the youths get tired and weary but those who put their hope in God and wait on Him will renew their strength. Maybe you are praying for strength to get through some challenging aspect of your life right now. Let God rest on you with His presence to be your strength one moment at a time.

Do you not know? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth does not grow tired or become weary; There is no searching of His understanding. He gives strength to the weary, and to Him who has no might he increases power. Even youths grow weary and tired, and vigorous young men stumble badly, But those who wait for the Lord [who expect, look for, and hope in Him] will gain new strength and renew their power; They will lift up their wings [and rise up close to God] like eagles [rising toward the sun]; They will run and not become weary,*

They will walk and not grow tired.

Isaiah 40:28-31 AMP





The Obedient Remnant

The Lord said, “Surely [it will go well for Judah’s obedient remnant for] I will set you free for good purposes; Surely [Jeremiah] I will [I will intercede for you with the enemy, and I will] cause the enemy to plead with you [for help] in a time of disaster and a time of distress.

[Jer.21:1. 2. 37:3, 42:2, Rom 8:28]

God said here that He would set the obedient remnant free for good purposes. God said He would cause the enemy to plead with us for help in a time of disaster and a time of distress. He also said here it would go well for Judah’s obedient remnant.

There are times when we are obedient in life and things don’t go well, sometimes we go through persecution, hardships and are put in prison or even killed while being obedient. Here, it’s clear though, that there are situations where God has spared some of His obedient remnant from disaster or rescued us to be able to serve Him. He sets us free for His good purposes and plans. Therefore, no hardship has come against us that will ever stop us from fulfilling God’s perfect plan as long as we remain obedient. (Jeremiah 15:11 AMP)

Those who have lived through tyrannical governments, escaped war and other similar situations seem to be very thankful for their freedom and have a deepened sense of purpose in their everyday life. Let us see where God is moving in our midst and not wait for war to be at our back door to realize what we have already escaped because of what Jesus did on the cross for us. We can be part of God’s obedient remnant now because our sins have been forgiven and we can talk to God all throughout our day. He hears us! I have met people who have come through and escaped dangerous situations that have a new sense of freedom, hope and joy. Today, no matter what you are going through, God will guide you if you ask Him for help. God will keep His Word.

‘For I know the plans and thoughts that I have for you’ says the Lord, ‘plans for peace and well-being and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. ‘Then you will call on Me and you will come and pray to Me, and I will hear [your voice] and I will listen to you. Then [with a deep longing] you will seek Me and require Me [as a vital necessity] and [you will] find Me when you search for Me with all your heart. [Deut. 4:29,30]

Jeremiah 29:11-13 AMP





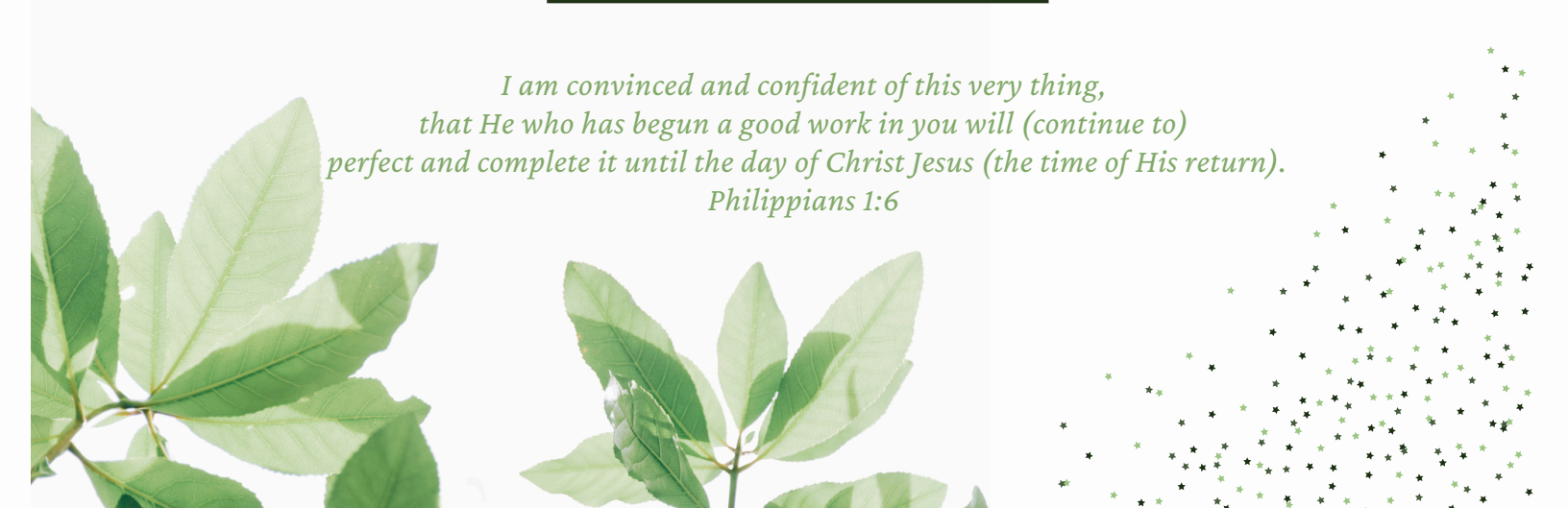
Pressing On

*Brothers and Sisters, I do not consider that I have made it my own yet;
but one thing I do; forgetting what lies behind
and reaching forward to what lies ahead,
I press on toward the goal to win the (heavenly) prize
of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.
Philippians 3:13-14*

Sometimes it is easy to get weighed down by all the things that come flying out of my mouth. I realize no matter how hard I try, I will still make mistakes or even sin at times. God has been encouraging me not to allow my weaknesses to weigh me down. Often when we are up against a wall and feel stuck, the only way forward is to press on. Shake off everything that hinders you and move forward forgetting the past.

We press on by focusing on who God is. We press on by bringing a sacrifice of praise! We press on by finding ways to encourage others who are struggling. We press on by declaring God's Word. We press on by being obedient. We press on by seeking God until we breakthrough and overcome everything that has been holding us back, and by not giving up on believing He is the way, truth, and life in agreement with him.

And finally, we press on by receiving God's love and then loving those around us. We will be successful and finish the race set before us if we simply keep pressing on.



*I am convinced and confident of this very thing,
that He who has begun a good work in you will (continue to)
perfect and complete it until the day of Christ Jesus (the time of His return).
Philippians 1:6*