ISSUE 253 • 07 DEC 2025

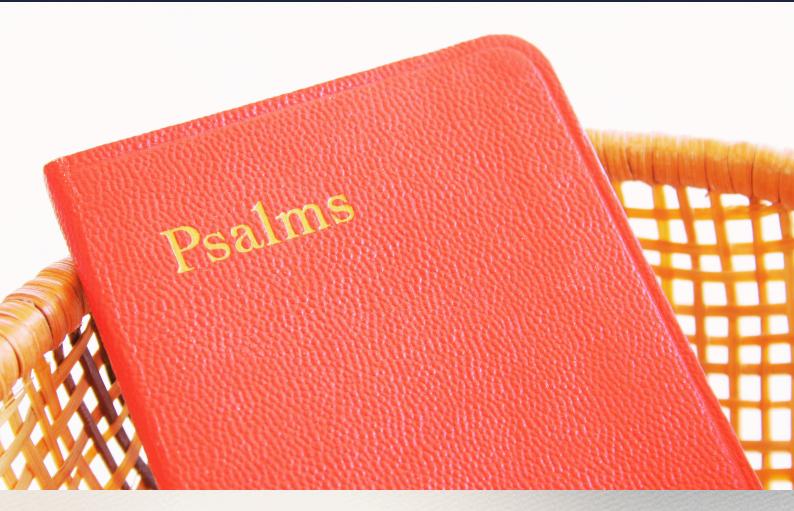
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ARTICLE

YOUTH DEVOTION: PSALMS

PRAYER SPOTLIGHT
PRAYER FOR YOUTH CAMP
(26TH-29TH DEC 2025)





# YOUTH DEVOTION: PSALMS

# **DEVOTION #1:**

#### Scripture

#### Psalms 86:17:

Give me a sign of your goodness that my enemies may see it and be put to shame, for you, O Lord, have helped me and comforted me.









#### **Observation**

From v14, we can see that the psalmist is pursued, but instead of calling upon God to strike his pursuers down, the psalmist requests that God give him a sign of goodness (and potentially glory) so it may be seen and the pursuers be put to shame.

I found this request weird. Why would the psalmist ask for a sign of goodness instead of judgment or vengeance upon his pursuers? v15, because the psalmist knows the heart of God; for God is compassionate, gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love, faithful.

For God's goodness to be seen acts as good news to both the psalmist and pursuer. For the Psalmist that he may be comforted, for the pursuer that he may repent.

## **Application:**

- 1. Take heart, God can use our bad circumstances/situations that we are in to call others (pursuers/offenders) to repentance.
- 2. Don't pray for judgment or vengeance, pray for God's goodness to be seen by those who pursue us (and who knows, maybe this can be the first step for them in knowing God).

## **Prayer**

O Lord, although I'm not under pursuit now, remind me, O Lord, of your heart. Of how you are forever compassionate, forever gracious.

Remind me, O Lord, that even those who pursue me are made in your image, and precious are they in your eyes. Help me to seek what you seek and use me, Lord, whatever it may be, for men to see your goodness. In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### **DEVOTION #2:**

## **Scripture**

#### Psalms 91:11-12

For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.

#### Observation

This was the same verse that the devil used when Jesus was tempted in the wilderness, and the verse does sound a whole lot about physical safety concerning God's people. But how do I consolidate this verse with physical suffering? How do I consolidate this verse with what Jesus had to say?

Know this, as long as the world has the slightest hint of sin, this verse from a physical sense/perspective can never be fulfilled. Sin comes along with suffering. So what does this verse mean then?

## **Application**

The Psalmist is using metaphors to convey what it means when we make the Lord our dwelling place (v9-10). But before we understand the verse as a whole, we have to know what the stone signifies in the Old Testament. Back when Israel became a nation and YHWH was their God, the laws were written in stone tablets (or stone in general).

With that in mind, re-read the verses again. In summary, if we make YHWH our dwelling, he will send his angels to guide us in our ways, and we will not offend his laws (or break them foot will not strike the stone). This is not a verse about physical safety; this is a verse about living in uprightness in God's sight by keeping to his words, with his help.

# <u>Prayer</u>

O Lord, how easily are we to be fooled by your words and misuse them like the devil. Let me have a pure heart and clear eyes to see your words for what it is. Grant me your protection from the evil one and take me to your dwelling place, wherever it may be. In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### **DEVOTION #3:**

## <u>Scripture</u>

#### Psalms 112:7-8

They will have no fear of bad news; their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

Their hearts are secure, they will have no fear;

in the end they will look in triumph on their foes

#### **Observation**

God's children have their fears aligned on what really matters. Verse I tells us that it's a blessing to fear the Lord, and the subsequent verses tell us what the blessings would be for the ones who fear the Lord (his children).

But one thing to note, fearing the Lord is exclusively reserved for Him and we should not fear on other matters. While verse tells us not to fear things external (uncontrollable news), verse 8 tells us not to fear things internal (heart/feelings). These stem from the fact that we place our trust and security (and may I add ~ fear) on what really matters, the Lord.

#### **Application**

Have I ever given thought that the reason for my anxiety and sense of security is due to not having my fears aligned with the right things? Perhaps I have been placing my fear of what is external and internal above God, just like how I place my idols above the Lord.

# <u>Prayer</u>

I pray for repentance, O Lord, how my heart is easily swayed by things of this world. How easily am I to be downcast in heart? Was it because I am not fearing you as much as I fear bad news? Realign my fear, O Lord, teach me to fear the right things. May I repent from my foolish ways, to ever put my fears even above You. I pray, O Lord, to be granted a spirit of repentance, in Jesus' name, Amen.



#### By Ivan Khoo

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# PRAYER FOR YOUTH CAMP (26-29 DECEMBER 2025):

#### For the Volunteers:

We thank you for our volunteers. Equip them to pour generously into the participants at the camp.

#### For God's Word:

May your Word be made known, learned, and treasured by all, leading everyone into a deeper pursuit of You.

# For the Participants:

We pray for transformed lives. We ask that every non-believer would accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.