

The Daysman Devotional

31 days of devotion

Kingdom Academy

The Daysman Devotional a 31-day journey into my favourite Psalms
by Donovan Jacobs

Request for information should be addressed to Kingdom Academy
Bellville
Cape Town
7530
info@ecclesia.org.za

ISBN: 978-0-620-82047-9

Editing and proofreading: Aan die Brandt designs

Unless otherwise indicated, quotations from the Bible are taken from the Kings James Version and where other versions are used it is indicated.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means –electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording, or any other –except for brief quotations in printed reviews, without the prior permission of the author.

Cover Design: Gideon Van Der Merwe

Interior Design: Bianca Brandt

Works covered by copyright © 2018

Printed in South Africa

To the Ecclesia

Be careful what you delight in because what you delight in will direct your life.

“Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart”: David the Psalmist

Acknowledgements

To Bianca and Claudette, who are very special to me, who at a time when I needed it, helped to complete this devotional. Your contribution to this book has been invaluable.

Thank you!

Table of Contents

THE DAYSMAN Devotional : Introduction.....	1
Day 1: Psalm 1 : You are blessed	3
Day 2: Psalm 2vs4 : God laughs at your enemies, you should too	4
Day 3: Psalm 3vs3 : Sleep, because God watches over you!	5
Day 4: Psalm 4vs1 : I am bigger than my troubles.....	6
Day 5: Psalm 5vs 2, 3 : First things first.....	7
Day 6: Psalm 6vs1-10 : Lord, I am sorry	8
Day 7: Psalm 7 : Save me from my frenemies	9
Day 8: Psalm 40vs1-3 : New beginnings.....	10
Day 9: Psalm 9vs1 : Make your praise prominent	11
Day 10: Psalm 17vs8 : Today I am protected	12
Day 11: Psalm 84vs10 : Better is one day in Your courts	13
Day 12: Psalm 85vs6 : Revive me oh God	14
Day 13: Psalm 51vs1-3 : Sinned but still saved.....	15
Day 14: Psalm 23 : The Lord is my shepherd	16
Day 15: Psalm 139vs23-24 : Perfect my ways	17
Day 16: Psalm 121vs1-8 : I will lift up my eyes.....	18
Day 17: Psalm 145vs1-3 : I will praise You always.....	19
Day 18: Psalm 27vs14 : Wait on the Lord.....	20
Day 19: Psalm 91vs1-2 : In Him, I am safe.....	21
Day 20: Psalm 11vs1-7 : Faith in the Lords righteousness	22

Day 21: Psalm 16vs8-9 : My delight is in the Lord	19
Day 22: Psalm 138vs8 : The Lord will perfect me	24
Day 23: Psalm 34vs4 : Unrestricted praise.....	26
Day 24: Psalm 37vs25 : My Testimony	27
Day 25: Psalm 118vs23-26 : This is the Lords doing.....	29
Day 26: Psalm 139vs14 : Fearfully and wonderfully made	31
Day 27: Psalm 133vs1&3 : Unity Commands a blessings	33
Day 28: Psalm 96 : Proclaim His goodness.....	34
Day 29: Psalm 137 : Remember your songs of Freedom	35
Day 30: Psalm 119vs89-91 : It is settled in Heaven	36
Day 31: Psalm 150 : Praise the Lord	38

THE DAYSMAN Devotional

Introduction

When I wrote the book: **“The Daysman, an invitation to prayer”**, I received countless emails and WhatsApp messages filled with testimonies of restored marriages and changed lives. I was deeply moved by people who would do anything to see their lives restored and in syncopation with heaven. What really encouraged me to write this booklet was the many requests to write a devotional that could accompany the Daysman.

Prayer, along with Praise and Promises went through my mind as this is foundational for us as Christians. Since a believer without prayer is a believer without power and a church without prayer is a church without power. We can't live without the Promises of God! We have to hold onto something in life when life does not make sense, then we hold on to His Promises. It is therefore important to use any tool that can help us with prayer. I believe that the book of Psalms is indeed such a tool. We trust that this booklet will help you pray and grow deeper in your faith with God.

The Psalms are a unique treasure of Scripture that connects a believer's head and heart as well our actions in a gorgeous and colourful way. While most of Scripture conveys words from God to man, the Psalms provide man with Spirit-inspired words to pray and sing to God. Every day you can take a Psalm and literally pray it back to God. The Psalms are meant to be sung and prayed, but so often we just read through them without the proper esteemed position it deserves in our lives. This booklet aims in part to bring our attention back to the beauty and poetry that not only touches the heart of man but also the heart of God.

I thought for a long time about which Psalms I wanted to choose. I only wanted 31 Psalms that we could pray every day in a calendar month. I wanted to pick ones that meant something to me, which brought me through some tough times, that I know will be a

blessing to others as well. I wanted different Psalms to address different needs and situations in our daily lives, but also our ecclesiastical lives that we share with others.

Don't be overwhelmed with the many Psalms, or the many different ways there are to pray. I have learned that God can hear your prayers, even the ones that you have been silently praying in your heart! As long as you look to God as your source of all that you want to see happen in your life and that of your loved ones, as well as the Ecclesia, you don't have to worry about how it will happen. You just pray and leave the results up to God.

The Psalms give believers the right words to pray when no words come to mind. The Psalms teach the importance of being honest with God and that it's okay to ask, "Why?" and "How long, O Lord?" We learn the necessity of submitting to God in difficult times and the joy we have in approaching Him when we contemplate His greatness.

The Psalms that I have chosen have deep meaning for me. It has brought me through times of testing and trial. I will arrange them in order as they flow out of me and not necessarily in sequence to that of the order in the Bible. Following the Psalter's prayer patterns will enrich our prayers, making their substance fuller and more God-centered. It has been a blessing to me, I hope it will be a blessing to you as well.

Day 1: Psalm 1

You are blessed

Passage: *"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither, and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away."*

Point: God is a God that blesses.

This wisdom Psalm functions as the introduction to the entire book of Psalms. It shows the path of the godly and the ungodly.

There are two words in the bible that most people really like and they are blessed and blessing. According to this Psalm, the godly, which is you, have to be careful where they walk, stand and sit. Be careful what you delight in because what you delight in will direct your life. Blessed people delight in the Word of God day and night. Blessed people become like trees, stable and strong whilst ungodly people are like chaff in the wind, unstable and without roots. Ecstasy and agony are the resultant effects of choices of the godly and the ungodly. To be blessed is better. God blesses us to be a blessing to others. The best blessing we can be for others is to bring them to God.

Prayer: Father Your Word is my delight and it directs my life. Your Word makes me stable and causes me to prosper in every season of my life. Thank You that I will not wither and everything that I do shall prosper. Help me to lead people back to You, the giver of life.

Day 2: Psalm 2:4

God laughs at your enemies, you should too

Passage *“Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us.⁴ He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision.”*

Point: God is in charge.

Why does God laugh? God laughs because He knows something. God knows that Christ has already won the victory. Our job is to declare His victory in the earth. Any defiance of God and His will is futile, it is stupid really. Instead of opposing the Son, we should submit to the Lord Jesus Christ and kiss the Son. It is symbolic of showing allegiance and submission to Him. The Psalm says that God knows. He knows the plans that He has for you. He knows also the plans that the enemy has for you. And therefore He laughs, because God knows that once you decide to trust Him, you will also laugh at your enemies, because you know! You know that God is in charge of your life. The Psalmist leaves the choice with everyone: Do you want to be blessed? Or do you want to perish? Be wise and serve the Lord with fear. Kiss the Son and put your trust in Him. Join in the laughing because you are on the winning side and this is your winning season.

Prayer: Father thank You that I am Your child. Thank You that Jesus Christ is my Lord and my master and that I have kissed the Son to show my allegiance to Him. Thank You that my enemies are Your enemies and that You laugh at your enemies. I join in Your laughter because I am on the winning side and this is my winning season.

Day 3: Psalm 3:3

Sleep, because God watches over you!

Passage: *“Lord, how are they increased that trouble me! Many are they that rise up against me. Many there be which say of my soul, there is no help for him in God. Selah. But thou, O Lord, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head. I cried unto the Lord with my voice, and he heard me out of His holy hill. Selah. I laid me down and slept; I awaked; for the Lord sustained me.”*

Point: Sleep peacefully, God is watching over you.

Truthfully, when your soul is troubled and the enemy is waiting for you to close your eyes, so they can do you harm, then sleep escapes you. Such was the case with David when his enemies surrounded him and he was running away from his son, a loved one, who wanted to kill him. David had to make a decision to trust the Lord. To take the pressure off his head so he could sleep. He cried out to God so that God can deliver him. This is the pattern that David shows us. The shield speaks of our protection. My glory, speaks of God as our source. Lifter up of mine head speaks of God who raises us up from despondency. Today whatever you are going through, know that God is the glory and the lifter of your head. He is the one that will give your weary mind rest. God is a shield of protection for you! God’s blessing is upon His people! You can trust Him so sleep with that knowledge! God is fighting for you, while you are sleeping.

Prayer: Father, for thou Oh Lord are a shield for me, You are the glory and the lifter of my head. Thank you that I can sleep at night with the knowledge that You watch over me.

Thank You that this is my season of abundance and increase is upon me. I can sleep in peace. I am glad in my heart because You reward those who trust in You!

Day 4: Psalm 4:1

I am bigger than my troubles

Passage: *"Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness: thou hast enlarged me when I was in distress; have mercy upon me and hear my prayer."*

Point: Trouble has been designed to enlarge you!

In life, you will experience trouble. It is a way of life. It is at these times that you will have to decide who you will listen to. David decided to call on God and listen for His answers. You see when you have trouble in your life, God can use it to make you bigger than your trouble. The word enlarger, "rachab" in Hebrew means to grow large or be enlarged.

Every time you are in trouble and you call on God in your distress, He makes you bigger than your trouble. He enlarges or broadens you. You grow in your trouble. You are bigger than your trouble. Today whatever you are going to face, know that God will deliver you and you will come out better for it. In verse 8, David says that God will cause Him to lay down in peace and sleep because He knows and now you know that you are bigger than your trouble!

Prayer: Father thank You that You always cause me to be victorious and that I become bigger even when I am surrounded by trouble. Thank You that You give me the special grace to be bigger than trouble and that I can rest in the midst of trial and tribulations because You watch over me.

Day 5: Psalm 5: 2, 3

First things first

Passage: *"Hearken unto the voice of my cry, My King and my God, for unto thee will I pray. My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O Lord in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and I will look up."*

Point: Give Him the beginning of your day.

This prayer is rich with priestly symbolism. Everything written here is a mirror for us. Remember that you are a priest before Him and that you bring your sacrifices of praise. Remind yourself that your first thoughts belong to Him. When you wake up in the morning, you give your first words to Him. Let Him hear your first thoughts, Let Him hear that your first desire, is to direct your attention to Him. You dedicate your offering to Him. That you look up in the morning and place Him first in your day.

When you place Him first, then He will direct the remainder of the day for you, because you are going to need it. A good day starts with a good morning. God first. Every morning is a good day to die. A good day to die to self and place yourself on the altar as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto Him, who is the beginning and the end of our faith.

Prayer: Father, You are my first and You are my last. In the morning I will seek You first because You require this as part of my worship to You. Help me to put You first when everything around me is calling for my attention. It is in these moments oh Lord that I need You even more. Thank You that I can depend on the multitude of Your mercies oh God and that I will worship towards Your Holy Place first thing in the morning.

Day 6: Psalm 6: 1-10

Lord, I am Sorry

Passage: *"O Lord, rebuke me not in Thine anger, neither chasten me in thy hot displeasure. Have mercy upon me O Lord, for I am weak. O Lord heal me for my bones are vexed..."*

Point: Our God is a God of mercy and grace.

David teaches in this Psalm the importance of repentance. He knows that we are weak and that we can easily break. This Psalm, very much like Psalm 51, teaches us the necessity of walking in repentance before God. When we neglect the warnings of God's Word, then God as a good Father takes up the rod and disciplines us. The discipline is not for our condemnation but for our conviction and our conversion to His will. Sin can make us tired and eventually kill us. Don't treat sin lightly, that will be a tragedy for you. Our greatest concern should be the anger of God. David teaches us to call out for mercy against God's anger because no man can stand against it, only grace and mercy can. So when we have done wrong, we pray that the corrections of our gracious God, will not be in anger but that His corrections will be in love. We can thank God that He has made a way of escape for us through Jesus on the Cross and that His anger and wrath for our sin was placed on Him.

Prayer: God thank You that You don't deal with us according to Your anger and displeasure, otherwise we will not survive. Thank You that You deal with us according to Your mercy and Your grace. Thank You that when we confess our sins, that You are faithful and just to forgive us of our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. As if we have never sinned! Thank You, Lord!

Day 7: Psalm 7

Save me from my frenemies

Passage: *“O Lord my God, in thee, do I put my trust. Save me from all them that persecute me and deliver me. Lest he tears my soul like a lion, rending it in pieces, while there is none to deliver me.”*

Point: When your friends persecute you, run to God!

There are times when people and friends will oppose you. Sometimes it can be so bad that it can feel like they want to rip you in pieces and make a meal out of you. Has that happened to you already? When you find yourself in such a place there are two things that you must do. Firstly run to God for protection. Run to Him because He is your Deliverer. The second thing that you must do is to examine your heart. You have to ask the question if there is something in you that would have caused a reason for such persecution. This is not a time to worry about your enemies, it is time for God to examine you and if there be any sin to have it removed. Times of testing from frenemies are opportunities for God to show you, your own heart so that His purposes can prevail. So in the end, verse 9 says that “God tries the hearts and reins” and look at verse 10 that says “My defense is of God, which saves the upright in heart. So let your heart be upright and you will see how God will deal with your frenemies.

Prayer: Father thank You that I can run to You when my enemies and my frenemies attack me. Thank You that You know my heart and that You try my reins for Your glory and honour. You are my defense even from myself, and therefore I yield myself to You.

Day 8: Psalm 40:1-3

New beginnings

Passage: *"I waited patiently for the Lord and he inclined unto me and he heard my cry. He brought me up also out a horrible pit, out of the miry clay and set my feet upon a rock and established my goings. And he put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God, many shall see it and fear and shall trust in the Lord."*

Point: God gives us new beginnings, even after we messed up.

There are times when we mess up and miss out. You must know that when we mess up, we have to deal with our consequences. Then we have to wait patiently until God hear our cries and show us mercy in our mess. When God brings us out of our miry clay and set our feet on a rock to stay, then you must grab your new beginning. When God gives you a new beginning, it is more than just changing your outside environment and circumstances. He changes you from the inside. That is when the new song gushes out of your mouth and your praises to God is pure. This type of new beginning cause's people to put their trust in God, because they have learned from your life not doing what you did. However, God uses your life not only to give you a new beginning but to give others a new beginning of trust in God. The Christian life is also a series of new beginnings, of falling down and getting up again. When we stumble, we often think, "I've failed again. I might as well give up." But God is the God of new beginnings. He not only forgives our sins, but He also uses our failures to make us wiser and put our feet on a rock to stay.

Prayer: God thank You for Your new beginnings. Even when we mess up and we miss out, You give us the grace to wait on You. Your new beginnings put my feet on a rock to stay and causes others to praise Your name. Thank You that failure is not final for those who put their trust in You.

Day 9: Psalm 9:1

Make your praise prominent

Passage: *"I will praise thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will shew forth all thy marvelous works. I will be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing praise to thy name, O thou most High. When mine enemies are turned back, they shall fall and perish at thy presence."*

Point: Your praise to God must be prominent.

In this Psalm, we are instructed to praise God with our whole heart. That means to use our whole being in our praise to Him. We must tell of His marvelous work. In other words, we must speak of it, people should know that we serve a living God, through the testimonies of our mouth. In verse 1 and 2, David, says I will, four times, to show his dedication to exuberant worship of God. We should do the same.

I have come to learn that our praise breaks every prison that we are in. Verse 9 of this wonderful Psalm says that the Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in the times of trouble. We have to learn that our praise must be prominent in times of trouble because we can put our trust in God. The wonderful promise to our praise is that the Lord will not forsake those who put their trust in Him. So today, put your trust in Him and make His praise marvelous.

Prayer: Father thank You that You administer judgment to all my enemies today. That I can praise You with my whole heart and that You receive it as worship. Thank You that my praise before You shall not be forgotten and that You arise from Your rest when I praise You.

Day 10: Psalm 17: 8

Today I am protected

Passage: *“Keep me as thy apple of the eye, hide me under the shadow of thy wings, From the wicked that oppress me, from my deadly enemies, who compass me about.”*

Point: God is your protector.

In this Psalm, David petitions the Lord about 17 times to help him and to keep him in his time of trouble. This is a beautiful prayer that you can pray when you feel that you are surrounded by enemies. Verse 8, David prays that now famous words that God must keep him as the apple of His eye. An expression, meaning the pupil of the human eye. As a person protects that vital organ of vision, so God protects His people of vision. Today rest assured that He will hide you in Him. The significance of this prayer is that if your cause is true, God will be on your side, regardless of the opposition. Even in apparent defeat, know that God will fight for you and that He will work it all out for you.

Prayer: Father thank You that You keep me as the apple of Your eye. Even in my brokenness, I know that You will restore me and keep me. Today I am going to rejoice in You, no matter what, because I know that You will keep me.

Day 11: Psalm 84: 10

Better is one day in Your courts

Passage: *"For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness."*

Point: To serve God, is the greatest joy you can experience.

Under the most favourable circumstances in which earth's pleasures can be enjoyed, they are not comparable by so much as one in a thousand to the delights of the service of God. There is no comparison to anything when you stand in the service of God. When our hearts are set to serve Him, then God provides the joy and satisfaction in serving Him. There is nothing like standing in the service of God. When we serve Him, He makes all things abound unto us. Verse 11 says then that, *"For the Lord God is a sun and shield, The Lord will give grace and glory". No good thing will He withhold from them who walk uprightly*". That is why the sons of Korah who wrote this Psalm can testify with song that it is better to serve in the house of God than to serve anywhere else. Today make a plan to serve God whether at work, which is your worship, but also in His house.

Prayer: What a privilege it is to serve You oh God. Thank You for the grace and the glory that You release to me when I serve You. Thank You that You promise provision and protection when I serve You. Thank You that You will withhold no good thing when I serve You. Selah.

Day 12: Psalm 85:6

Revive me oh God

Passage: *"Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?"*

Point: God will revive you again.

David asks God a question: *"Will You not?"* This is an important question to ask God when you are born again. "Lord, will You not revive us again?" This question is for those who had life in them, but somehow, we became lifeless. We have lost our spiritual vibrancy. This is the time that we come to God to ask Him that question: Will You not? Will You not revive me again? Will You not restore me again? Will You not?

Will You not? That Thy people may rejoice in Thee. There are times that we must ask God to revive us, our families, our faith, our finances, our friends so that we can rejoice in Him.

We must ask God to revive us. David continues that when we ask Him, he knows that God will hear us. We know that God will revive us. We desperately need to be touched by God. We desperately need to ask God for new life, because He has abundant life for us. We need God to revive us again so that His Kingdom might be established through an apostolic people that is alive and full of the joy of salvation. This joy we must share with those who don't know our God. The God who revives His people. Today, ask God to revive you again. Ask God to revive our church again. Ask God to revive our families again. Our revival and our rejoicing is in Him!

Prayer: Father God thank You that You are in the revival business. Revive me today, so that I can rejoice in You. Amen

Day 13: Psalm 51:1-3

Sinned but still saved

Passage: *"Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightiest be justified when thou speaks, and be clear when thou judgest."*

Point: When we sin, we don't lose our salvation, only our joy.

This is one of those Psalms that you must treasure. This Psalm teaches us about man's repentance and God's forgiveness. There is a remedy for our rebellion against God's laws and that is repentance. When we recognise how horrible our sin was against God, we blame no one but ourselves. David shows us that forgiveness is available to us because of His lovingkindness. You see when you and I sin, we don't lose our salvation, only the joy. The bible says that the joy of the Lord is our strength (Neh 8:10). No joy, no strength. How can you stay in the joy of your salvation? Confess your sins and transgressions, and mean it.

Prayer: Father, I know that when we sin, it does not only affects us but also others. Father help us to restore our witness to others by restoring our joy. Thank You that You are a loving Father that teaches us Your ways. Thank You for the joy of my salvation.

Day 14: Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd

Passage: *The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want:* **Speaks of Personal Provision**

2 *He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters:* **Speaks of Position and Progress**

3 *He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake:* **Speaks of Purpose**

4 *Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me:* **Speaks of Protection**

5 *Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over:* **Speaks of Provision**

6 *Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever:* **Speaks of Passionate Pursuit of His Presence**

Point: Your entire life is covered by the care of the shepherd

It has been called the most well-known of all chapters in the Book of Psalms for its universal theme of trust in God. This Psalm shows God, as our Shepherd, our Provider and ultimately our pursuit in life.

Prayer: Father thank You that I can hear Your voice because You are my shepherd. Thank You that my entire life is covered by Your grace and care. Thank You that as my shepherd You go before me every day, so I don't have to fear the future. I commit this day to Your guidance and protection. Amen

Day 15: Psalm 139: 23-24

Perfect my ways

Passage: *“ Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.”*

Point: Live for the purposes of God.

We might go through our daily lives, thinking that we've managed to do what we've planned to do. Yet the plans of God must still be fulfilled in our lives. His ways ought to be our ways. Allow God to search within you, your thoughts, your emotions, your motivations, your love for His purposes. God is aware of what we are experiencing and what we desire. Submit your plans unto the Lord, for He is all-knowing. His purposes will lead you in the way everlasting.

Prayer: Almighty God, I praise You for Who You are. You know us intimately, and despite our weaknesses, You still love us. I pray for the guidance of Your Spirit today. Lead me in Your paths of righteousness today. I ask now Holy Spirit to move in my mind and heart so I can hear Your instructions clearly. Lead me, I am ready to follow You today. Amen.

Day 16: Psalm 121: 1-8

I will lift up my eyes

Passage: *"I will lift up my eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help, my help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved, he that keepeth thee will not slumber, Behold, He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep"*

Point: Our Help cometh from the Lord.

As believers in Christ, we face different challenges on a daily basis. Many times we rely on our flesh to make things happen instead of relying and waiting on God, our helper to come through for us in all areas of our lives.

God is aware of us, He is aware of our situations and our every need. He knows how to provide for you. He just wants us to look up and trust in His word that says *our help comes from Him*. Today I want you to know that God will keep you and that He will not slumber nor sleep over you. God is your Keeper! God is your shade, He will protect you from the heat of the battle. Today, lift up your eyes to Him, your help is going to come from the Lord.

Prayer: Father, Your word says that You are not asleep and that You are aware of me and my every need. Help me to not lean on the arm of flesh today. Provide like only You can. Deal with my unbelief Lord and help me to confidently look up to You, my Giver and my Gift. Amen

Day 17: Psalm 145: 1-3

I will praise You always

Passage: *"I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever. Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever. Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom."*

Point: I live to praise Him.

Our lives must sing the praises of the Lord. We cannot remain silent. We are graced with new breath daily. Our God is full of compassion and gracious towards us and out of our thankfulness, we exalt His name. Our lives are worship unto our Father and we live to praise His Name. Every day we must proclaim God's power and glory. Every day we must proclaim His goodness. God is worthy of our praise. Today find a reason to praise Him. Today find a reason to open your mouth and confess His greatness. When you do that, God will become even bigger in your life. When you do that, you will see, how closer God will draw near to you.

Prayer: Father I will exalt You above everything. There is no higher Name than Your majestic Name my God. I thank You for my life. You are worthy of all my praise and adoration. I declare Your greatness in the earth oh Lord. Every day You grace me with new life. My life is worship unto You oh God. I live to praise You.

Day 18: Psalm 27:14

Wait on the Lord

Passage: *“Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord.”*

Point: Wait and He shall strengthen you.

Waiting is something this generation does not do well. We live in an era where everything is like “popcorn”, you put it in the microwave and two minutes later you have your popcorn, or your noodles, or your food delivered to your doorstep etc. These are simple examples, but people have become so impatient over the years that they expect a quick solution to everything. David encourages himself in this Psalm by waiting on the Lord. David has found out that when you wait on the Lord, that He will renew your strength.

Why is it that we do not want to wait? Many times in waiting we receive God’s very best for us, but if we take matters into our own hands, we end up with second or third best. If you are in waiting, be of good courage and be patient. Wait on the Lord to send the right answer, open the right door, at the right time. This waiting also pertains to a life partner. Wait and again I say wait on the Lord. Whatever the situation might be, wait on Him and you will be pleasantly surprised at how He shows up for you.

Prayer: Lord, I have become so impatient, always wanting a quick solution to everything. I am sorry about that Lord. Your Word instructs me to wait on You, help me to be patient and wait on You with confident expectation for Your will to be done in my life. Amen

Day 19: Psalm 91: 1-2

In Him, I am safe

Passage: *“He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust.”*

Point: God is my protector.

God alone is my refuge, my place of safety. Under His wings is where I want to remain. It's a safe and intimate place. Today we might be facing trouble in our personal lives, yet we have a safe place to turn to. We are never alone. By just walking in His shadow, close to Him, we receive the ultimate safety net. When we are close to God, we can hear His heart beat and feel His breath alive over us. In Him, we find peace, rest and the assurance that God is still in control. Today you must: *“Say”* of your God, that He is your refuge and your fortress. Is that not amazing? God wants you to utter the words, *God, You are my refuge, You are my fortress, I will trust in You.* Go ahead and say it to Him.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, today I dwell in Your secret place. I say of You: *“You are the most High God and under Your shadow is where I will remain. In You I am safe. In You, I am protected against the snares of this world.”* Thank You Father, for being my refuge and fortress. In You, I will trust always.

Day 20: Psalm 11: 1-7

Faith in the Lords righteousness

Passage: *"In the Lord put I my trust, For the righteous Lord loveth righteousness, his countenance doth behold the upright"*

Point: Our faith is in His Righteousness.

When God created man He placed something inside all of us. He placed in us a desire to belong. A desire to belong to Him. He has given us emotions that want to trust Him because He knitted us that way. Ps 11 dialogues about placing our trust in God. That trust, God has placed inside of all of us. It is part of the foundation of our soul. When it is misplaced everything else will be misplaced in our lives. Verse 3 says: *if that foundations are destroyed what can the righteous do?* Without foundations we are nothing. God expects us to honour the foundation of righteousness because He loves righteousness, you must too.

We must put our faith in the Lord's righteousness, not our own righteousness. When we come to the understanding that we cannot live without righteousness, our foundations are secured.

Trust is not only an action, but it is also a feeling. When you trust God, our emotions will come in line with your trust. Trust in the Lord's righteousness that is imputed to you. You know what happens when you put your trust in the Lord, the Lord Himself will look at you!

Prayer: Lord we place our hope and trust in You today. Where we have neglected to humble ourselves to Your Lordship we repent this morning and ask for forgiveness. We receive Your righteousness today. Look at us today and come and visit us. Amen.

Day 21: Psalm 16: 8-9

My delight is in the Lord

Passage: *"I have set the Lord always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope."*

Point: Rejoice in the Lord today.

We have to set the Lord before us. That means we have to make the Lord our focus. When the Lord is our focus then we will not be moved. We will not be moved by bad news, we will not be moved by people, places or problems. When you set the Lord before you, an amazing thing happens, you start to rejoice because your heart is glad. When your heart is glad, your flesh, the way you interact with this world, will be at rest. Your heart is satisfied, your flesh is at rest, and you have become a well-balanced believer because you have set the Lord before you. Today, as you start your day, set the Lord before you, make Him the focus of your attention and see how your heart will rejoice.

Prayer: Almighty God, my heart is glad and I rejoice in the joy of my salvation. Thank You for always sending Your Spirit before me. Today I set You before me to guide my body, my mind, and my spirit. You are cemented in my life, I cannot fail. Amen.

Day 22: Psalm 138:8

The Lord will perfect me

Passage: *"The Lord will perfect that which concerneth me: thy mercy, O Lord, endureth forever: forsake not the works of thine own hands."*

Point: Your imperfections has a perfect purpose.

This is my all-time favourite verse in the Psalms. To think that my imperfections does not put God off, but rather He uses my imperfections for His purpose. This Psalm you should take verse by verse to appreciate the richness of how God uses your imperfections. It starts off by you praising and worshipping Him for His covenant keeping promises. You can know as a reality that God has magnified His Word above His name and therefore everything that you speak out of the Word with boldness will give you strength in your soul. Why, because it will come to pass. Even the kings of the earth knows this! Your enemies stand no chance against you today. Your enemies will experience the wrath of God today because God's right hand will save you. All because you speak His Word as prayers into your circumstances. As you praise Him, As you worship Him, as you speak His Word, as a certainty know that He is busy perfecting you.

All your imperfections will just melt away, like mist before the sun. This is what mercy is about. Grace is **receiving** what you don't deserve. Mercy is **not receiving** what you deserve. This Psalm speaks of having a personal relationship with the Lord. When God perfects you, He perfects you for His covenant purposes, so that His Kingdom can be established on the earth.

Prayer: Father thank You for Your covenant keeping promises in the Word. Thank You that You keep Your promises and that one of

Your promises is that You will perfect me and Your mercy will endure forever in my life. I am filled with gratitude Lord, that You will not forsake me, the works of Your hands. Amen.

Day 23: Psalm 34:4

Unrestricted praise

Passage: *"I will bless the Lord at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make her boast in the Lord: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad. O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together."*

Point: There's no stopping to my praise.

"We are saved by grace, through faith and not of our own works. It is a gift from God." So your boast is not in you accepting Him, but your boast is that He accepted you! The salvation we obtain in Christ Jesus is a free gift from God. We are thankful for this great gift that was given for all mankind to partake of. May our attention be removed from ourselves and always remain focused on Him. We should strive to seek Him in everything and continue to trust Him in all things. So today, say thank you for the gift of salvation, make your boast in the Lord. Be glad today, be glad, that means be happy, open your mouth and smile because God has accepted you in the beloved. Today, let there be no stopping of the flow of praise out of your mouth. Magnify God and find someone to praise God with. There is no end to His goodness.

Prayer: Father, I thank You for the truth and the power of Your Word. Today I will praise and I will find someone that can praise You with me. I make my boast in You! I will bless the Lord at all times, His praise shall continually be in my mouth! Today I will rejoice in You!

Day 24: Psalm 37:25

My Testimony

Passage: *"I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread."*

Point: In all the seasons of my life, God has been faithful.

This verse is a testimony of the faithfulness of God. Throughout all the seasons of life, whether in good times or bad times, God has always been there and He has been faithful. This is also my testimony. It does not mean that I have not experienced hardships, or pain or rejection or lack, it simply means that through all of these things, God was with me and He has been faithful. David uses "I" three times: "I" was young, now "I" am old, and "I" have never seen the righteous forsaken. This speaks of personal experience with the Lord. I know that this is your testimony too.

We all have it and we must treasure it. The point of this Psalm for me is this: God does not abandon His people! When we join the common wealth of Israel or better put, the Covenant Commonwealth, then certain rules apply. One of the rules is that we don't beg! God provides for the needs of the righteous. God is a loving Father and He looks after His own. Don't be afraid of getting old, because God remains with us. He remains in us. We can claim this because Jesus said: *I will never leave you, nor will I forsake you (Hew 13: 5)*. We can trust Him.

Prayer: You are a faithful God. Your history with us shows Your faithful testimony and that is that You will never leave us, nor forsake us.

Thank You that we can depend on Your promises. We claim this promise because this is also our testimony: You are faithful! Amen.

Day 25: Psalm 118: 23-26

This is the Lords doing

Passage: *“this is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it. Save now, I beseech thee, O Lord: O Lord, I beseech thee, send now prosperity. Blessed be he that cometh in the name of the Lord: we have blessed you out of the house of the Lord.”*

Point: Your blessing is the Lord's doing.

Everything that you have that is worthy of felicitations, whether it is at work or in the church, should be offered up to the Lord in praise. This is His doing! You are because of Him. Even in the smallest detail that you want to boast about, is because of Him. The wisdom that we operate in that comes from the Word exceeds the wisdom of the world. Therefore we are qualitatively raised to a new level of excellence because of Him. God gets the glory and we get the benefits. This is the blessing of the Lord!

It is marvelous in our eyes. The way the Lord works. We actually see it; it is not in our thoughts and hopes and prayers alone, but the work of the Lord is actually being performed before our eyes. This brings so much faith to us because we can see the Word in action and this inspires us to believe for more. Therefore we can rejoice in Him, because we know, that this is the day that the Lord has made and we will rejoice and be glad in it. We join in with the host of heaven and we shout in exclamations of joy. *“Hosanna (save now) Hosanna (Save now)”* and *send prosperity* in all that we do. Can you just imagine the confusion of the enemy when you shout and sing this song in the midst of your trials, then you are truly blessed and operating in the will of God.

Prayer: Father thank You for sending us prosperity in the day that You have made for us. We will rejoice and be glad, in the good

times, in the bad times, even in the happy or sad times. All that we can boast about is what You have brought about and we bless You for that. Selah

Day 26: Psalm 139:14

Fearfully and wonderfully made

Passage: *"I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvelous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well."*

Point: I am made in His image.

We are created in God's image. In Genesis 1:27, *"God created man in His own image. Male and female He created them."* This equates to more than physical appearance, it is deeper because God is a Spirit. It is the soul of human beings that especially bears God's image: mind, will, and emotion. God's image in us consists of knowledge, righteousness, and true holiness (Ephesians 4:24; Colossians 3:10). You and I are the brightest and most creative of all created beings because His Spirit dwells in us. God created us to be in relationship with Him, and one day we will have un-hindered fellowship with the living God, with bodies that can stand in His presence.

No wonder the song writer says *"I will praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made."* We were made for God. He goes on to say that *"His soul knows this very well"*. Deep within us is a knowing that God created us for Him. Because all of creation worships Him. Everything about us, our bodies, souls, and spirits must bring glory and honour to Him. So when you feel rejected or dejected when things don't go your way, remember, man did not make you. Man does not validate you, God made you and whatever God makes, is good!

Prayer: Father when I think of the miracle of birth, I can only but praise You. Father, I want to be a good steward of this body, soul,

and spirit that You have given me. I know that good stewardship honours You, so help me to bring honour to You, because You have made me fearfully and wonderfully, just for You. Amen

Day 27: Psalm 133:1,3

Unity commands a blessings

Passage: *“Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity, 3b for there the Lord commanded the blessing even life for evermore.”*

Point: When we are in unity we experience the blessing of the Lord.

Unity is rare. Man's default is generally to go against the grain or do the opposite to what everyone else is doing. David is speaking to us as saints, and he tells us that unity of the saints is beautiful to God. For brethren to dwell together is not easy or natural, there needs to be a supernatural component involved to achieve this unity. It is shameful for us to dwell in discord. It is much better than in cases of discord, to part like Abraham and Lot than to dwell together in envy like Joseph's brothers. You have to protect the unity of the believers. When brethren do dwell together in unity, then our communion and community inspires others to be part of what God is doing.

The word pleasant brings to mind a beautiful aroma, and when we as brethren dwell together in unity, then we give off a sweet smelling aroma before the Lord and this pleases Him, He then commands a blessing. The more the unity, the more goodness, and pleasantness there will be!

Prayer: Father, Thank You for teaching me about unity and the blessing that You bestow on us as brethren when we walk in true unity and brotherly love. Help me to seek the unity of the faith with my brethren so Your kingdom can be established on the earth. Amen.

Day 28: Psalm 96

Proclaim His goodness

Passage:- *“Sing unto the LORD, bless his name; shew forth his salvation from day to day.”*

Point: My goodness, Proclaim His goodness!

The Psalmist starts out by saying, *“sing a new song, sing to the Lord all the earth, sing to the Lord and bless His Name”*. We see the words, “Proclaim”, “Declare”. These words require deep thought from the person who is doing it. Whenever we sing a new song, this means that God is doing something new in us in order to bring out new words into the atmosphere. This normally happens when God takes us on a journey of discovery, a discovery of Who He is. When we sing a new song, we give back to God, what we have learned from Him. This is part of giving back to our Lord. It is part of our praising and thanksgiving unto our God. This Psalm teaches us to be thankful. I don’t think that our God needs our praises nor our thanks but we need it. The earth and its inhabitants need to hear your new song, your new testimony of what God has done for you. The earth needs to hear, your revelation of Who He is! So sing unto the Lord a new song and bless His name today.

Prayer: Father, thank You for teaching me that my new song is part of what my world needs to hear. Today, I declare that my God reigns. Today I proclaim Your marvellous works! Today I sing my new song to You! Amen

Day 29: Psalm 137

Remember your songs of freedom

Passage: *“By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down, yes we wept when we remembered Zion”*

Point: Sing your redemption songs, even in difficult times.

This Psalm is a scary song for me. It warns me not to sin against God repeatedly. When you do that, you lose your song, and the enemy carries you away. Then you sit on your blister and all you can do is to remember how it used to be. A song from the heart is very important when you go through difficult times. Don't lose your song! Do you know that on the night that Jesus was betrayed, that He sang? Yes our Lord could sing! I bet you did not know that. The bible says in Math 26:30 that Jesus sang. The theologians says that because it was over Passover that they had to sing any Psalm from Psalm 113-118. Others say that they could have sung this song: A song of Zion.

Don't live on the memories of the past, even the good ones, make new ones, and sing new songs. Daily, sing to the Lord. The Lord loves your singing. No one can sing your freedom songs like you do. Not even the angels. So sing your songs, even in the difficult times, sing your songs in good times, but sing your songs! Sing your songs and remember Zion. Not the Zion that was, but the Zion that is.

Prayer: Father thank You for the song that You have placed in my heart. I remember where Your faithfulness has brought me from and I sing a new song of Your faithfulness that now is. Thank You for the joy of my salvation. I treasure all that You have done for me and what You are still going to do. Today I remember Lord, I remember Your goodness and Your mercy and I say thank You!

Day 30: Psalm 119: 89-91

It is settled in Heaven

Passage: *“Forever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven. Thy faithfulness is unto all generations: thou hast established the earth, and it abideth. They continue this day according to thine ordinances: for all are thy servants.”*

Point: God said it, I believe it, and that settles it!

Servant of the Lord. Heaven has already settled its mind concerning you and your destiny. Whatever God has planned for your life, if you are willing and obedient, you will eat the fruit of the land. His Word concerning everything is settled. God's Word is not fickle nor uncertain; it is settled, determined, fixed, sure, immovable. People change so often that there is never time for them to be settled, but the Lord's Word is from forever till forever and will remain unchanged forever. Do you know how long forever is? It is forever. Do you know what settled means? It means settled. God's faithfulness will be proven to you, your children and your children's children, unto all generations. We have the assurance that when we read the Word and the Word read us, and we allow the Word to become flesh, then whatever we have trusted God for will become flesh. That is settled because God's Word does not return void unto Him. You can trust His Word. Today, God will be faithful to you! It is settled in heaven.

Prayer: Forever oh Lord, Your Word is settled in heaven. You are faithful God to me and to all my generations. Thank You that the earth responds to Your Word and that whatever Your Word says will come to pass. Your Word in my mouth is what the heavens and the earth is waiting for because I am Your servant. I speak Your

Word, I believe Your Word and You fulfill Your Word. Blessed be the Word of the Lord!

Day 31: Psalm 150

Praise the Lord

Passage: *“Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness. Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp. Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs. Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals. Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord.”*

Point: It’s obvious, you must praise the Lord!

This final Psalm in the bible answers some strategic questions about praise. It speaks about, where? What for? With what and for who? The Psalm starts with Praise the Lord and ends with Praise the Lord. We have to start with praise the Lord and we have to end with praise the Lord. Our faith is strengthened with singing and praising. Do you know that no other religion sings, praise and makes music like we do? Do you know why? Because we have the song of the Lord in our hearts. So who do we praise? We praise the Lord. The maker of heaven and earth. We don’t praise man, only God.

Where do we praise? The Psalm says we must praise God in His sanctuary (church) and then we join in with the angels and we praise Him in His firmament, which can mean on the earth, anywhere.

Why do we praise God? We praise Him for His mighty acts, we praise Him for His excellent greatness. In short, we praise Him for what He does and for Who He is. How do we praise Him? We must make a joyful noise, with psaltery, with harps, the timbrel, the

dance, stringed instruments, wind instruments like the flute and the loud cymbals. What the Psalmist is saying, use everything imaginable musically to praise the Lord! I like that a lot! Church should be orchestral and respectful, but it should also be free and spontaneous. This is a fitting conclusion to the book of Psalms. Praise Him, praise Him, and praise Him, praise Him!

Prayer: Father all of nature is praising You, but sometimes, we forget to praise You, please forgive us for that. Father, we have much to praise You about. But when it is all said and done, I want to praise You for Who You are! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord. Selah

End Notes

1. Halloran, K., 2018. *Unlocking the Bible*. [Online]Availableat:<https://unlockingthebible.org/2015/08/eight-ways-to-use-the-Psalms/>[Accessed 23 October 2018].
2. MacArthur, J., 1997. *The John MacArthur Study Bible*. s.l. Harper Collins.
3. Page, A., 2018. *This is your winning season*. Cape Town: Ecclesia Kingdom Community.
4. Brown,J.F.,n.d.*Biblehub*. [Online]Availableat:<https://biblehub.com/commentaries/Psalms/3-3.htm>[Accessed 26 October 2018].