

The Lord Is My Fort....

Psalm 18:2-3 (The Living Bible) - The Lord is my fort where I can enter and be safe; no one can follow me in and slay me. He is a rugged mountain where I hide; he is my Savior, a rock where none can reach me, and a tower of safety he is my shield. He is like the strong horn of a mighty fighting bull. All I need to do is cry to him –oh, praise the Lord – and I am saved from all my enemies!

I remember well the dining room table in our home when I was a child. There were seven of us in our family and our table was long and rectangle in shape. It was the place where we ate all of our meals and came together as a family. But most of all, as a child, I remember when mother helped us turn that table into a fort. That table covered with blankets or sheets became a place for us to play in and to enter the world of make believe. We felt we were safe from all harm. I remember that you could only enter the fort by knowing the password and in our young minds that made sure that no one uninvited could enter our space. It was an awesome thing, even as a child, to feel so safe and protected. To have that place that was warm and fun and safe. Our fort was made even more special and safe because mom had created it for us. She had placed the sheets or blankets in such a way that our fort was perfect. She provided flashlights and treats to make it a wonderful place to be. And she assured us that if we needed anything she was right outside our fort.

These verses in Psalm 18 remind me that Jesus is a fort for you and me. When we go to Jesus in prayer or Bible study, with a quiet heart or a stressful mind, he reminds us that with him we are safe and no one can follow us into our fort and slay us or destroy us. He has prepared the place and our hearts for warmth, protection and love and fun. And oh yes, there is a password for this space also...and the password is Jesus. And Jesus promises us that he's right there if there is anything we need.

Is there a place in your life right now where you're looking for a fort of protection and hope and peace; a broken relationship, divorce, loss of job, illness or loneliness? Those places in our lives that make us feel so unsafe and fearful. Join me this week as we ask Jesus to be our fort of safety; as we let Jesus be the place we come to and let Jesus fill us with his presence, his peace, his strength, his forgiveness and his love. And then rest in the assurance that he is right there with you.

Prayer: Gracious and loving Lord, how we thank you that you are our fort. Our hearts overflow with thankfulness that you promise to protect us, to love us, to guide us, and to be with us at all times. Come into our lives, Lord Jesus, this week and bring us your grace and your forgiveness and your hope. Where there is darkness, be our light. Where there's anxiety, be our peace. Where there is hopelessness, be our hope. And then give us the opportunity and the courage to share your message with others so that they, too, might have a fort of safety. For your grace, your forgiveness, and your awesome love, we give you thanks. In your precious name we pray. Amen.