

**Monday, 14 October 2019** Psalm 71:1-3

*In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame!  
In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear  
to me, and save me! Be to me a rock of refuge, to which I may  
continually come; you have given the command to save me, for  
you are my rock and my fortress.*

You are my high place, the place of refuge, and protection from all the attacks of the evil one. You never fail, never sleep or slumber, are always at my side even when I ignore You and seek other gods. You are the gracious one, slow to anger and abounding in love and mercy, faithful even unto a thousand generations. You are my Lord and Master, in You is my delight.

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**Tuesday, 15 October 2019** Psalm 71:4-8

*Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the  
grasp of the unjust and cruel man. For you, O Lord, are my  
hope, my trust, O LORD, from my youth. Upon you I have  
leaned from before my birth; you are he who took me from my  
mother's womb. My praise is continually of you. I have been as  
a portent to many, but you are my strong refuge. My mouth is  
filled with your praise, and with your glory all the day.*

You well know, far better than I, of those areas of family, ministry, and finances that are distracting me from You. Yet You have always been as the Shield of Patrick around me, in front and behind, on the right and the left, and above and below. How can I forget? Why do I forget? It is because I am so easily distracted from praising You. Fill me, Holy Spirit, with those words of praise and the Glory of the Lord all of my day.

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**Wednesday, 16 October 2019** Psalm 71:9-13

*Do not cast me off in the time of old age; forsake me not when  
my strength is spent. For my enemies speak concerning me;  
those who watch for my life consult together and say, "God has  
forsaken him; pursue and seize him, for there is none to deliver  
him." O God, be not far from me; O my God, make haste to help  
me! May my accusers be put to shame and consumed; with  
scorn and disgrace may they be covered who seek my hurt.*

I know that You will not cast me off for You are bringing me into the very prime of my walk with You. Now, in the

last years of my life, You are using me to carry Your Name into dark places, Praise You, my Lord, and Master.

But there are those who seek to dissuade me from the course that You have set, those who mistake waiting and watching for weakness. Give me strength and patience to wait upon Your time and to advance in Your wisdom. Keep me in prayer before You, that resolution will come in Your time, not mine.

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**Thursday, 17 October 2019** Psalm 71:14-16

*But I will hope continually and will praise you yet more and more.  
My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of  
salvation all the day, for their number is past my knowledge.  
With the mighty deeds of the Lord GOD I will come; I will remind  
them of your righteousness, yours alone.*

Lord, my prayer is that my conversations will be to tell of Your wondrous works and to praise You. Show me those instances where I am trying to glorify me, not You. Let all my day speak more of You and less of me.

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**Friday, 18 October 2019** Psalm 71:17-21

*O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim  
your wondrous deeds. So even to old age and gray hairs, O  
God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to another  
generation, your power to all those to come. Your righteousness,  
O God, reaches the high heavens. You who have done great  
things, O God, who is like you? You who have made me see  
many troubles and calamities will revive me again; from the  
depths of the earth you will bring me up again. You will  
increase my greatness and comfort me again.*

"Proclaim Your might to another generation," Lord, I have not been faithful in proclaiming Your might to my children, and grandchildren. I still suffer from that evil decision many years ago, to allow them to make their way spiritually. Forgive me, Lord. I pray, Lord, for two things. One is that my mouth will be opened to proclaim Your might to them, and the other is that they will not suffer from my sin.

Why is it so easy to speak of Your love and the great things You have done for me in prison, but so hard for my family?

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**Saturday, 19 October 2019** Psalm 71:22-24

*I will also praise you with the harp for your faithfulness, O my God; I will sing praises to you with the lyre, O Holy One of Israel. My lips will shout for joy, when I sing praises to you; my soul also, which you have redeemed. And my tongue will talk of your righteous help all the day long, for they have been put to shame and disappointed who sought to do me hurt.*

Yes! Lord, keep these verses before me throughout the day. May my mouth be filled with Your praises and that they would be a two-edged sword in my hand.

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**Lord's Day, 20 October 2019** Exodus 20:1-2, 16

*And God spoke all these words, saying, "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ... "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*

If I am not to bear false witness against my neighbor, then what am I directed to do? To bear true witness to my neighbor! What what is the True Witness? O, that I would always join with John the Baptist in witnessing that You are the Son of God, the Lamb who takes away the sin of the world.

*Voices Together* is available as two annual volumes of meditations based on Psalm 1 through 75 and Psalm 76 through 150. A companion book, *The Love Story*, is a 22 week series of meditations based on Psalm 119. They are available through the Fellowship of Ailbe book store at [www.ailbe.org/bookstore/christian-discipline](http://www.ailbe.org/bookstore/christian-discipline)

# VOICES TOGETHER

*Daily Meditations from the Scriptures*



*October 14-20, 2019*

**Prayer of the week, based on Paul's prayer in: Philippians 4:6-7**

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

Forgive us, LORD, when we succumb to the sin of anxiety, to that grievous sin that represents trust in our own efforts rather than trusting in Your Word.

LORD, You have sent us out to carry the message of the peace of God into all the corners of the kingdom of man. We come to You seeking that guidance and discernment that will empower us to reach all those You have entrusted to our care and ministry; depending totally upon Your promise to guard our hearts and minds in You. Amen

***To fear or not to fear, that is the question.***

The fear of the Lord, an expression that occurs many times in Scripture, 142 in the ESV in various forms, is not well understood in the Church today. For many, the phrase represents a weak and flabby description of an overly saccharine spiritual being of some sort. It certainly does not include the concept of the LORD, God the Almighty who spoke all things into being and who controls all things.

Join with me in examining the fear of the LORD and seeking an understanding of life in the Kingdom of Heaven in the here and now as guided by that fear.

*Voices Together* is published daily on the website of the Fellowship of Ailbe, [www.ailbe.org](http://www.ailbe.org); along with material by other writers to encourage and assist in our walks as disciples of Jesus Christ. All Scripture is from the ESV unless otherwise noted. These messages can also be received as daily emails or in a monthly printed version by sending a request to:

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