



## PRAYER SERVICE WEDNESDAY, May 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2021

Join us at 7pm in the Sanctuary or on [Facebook](#) and use this guide to pray along with us.

### • INTRO

Welcome to Prayer Service! Psalm 34 is a jubilant psalm of praise: it comes primarily from a place of thanking God for his deliverance and trusting in God's faithfulness to those who seek him. When we take this prayer in and really believe it, we realize how *abundant* life with God can be. At the same time though, it covers a wide range of emotions (like all the Psalms). You could say, *Psalm 34 has something for everyone*. No matter where you're coming from as you enter this time of prayer, you can find something in this Scripture that will speak to your heart. Are you full of praise? Delighted in God? Longing for God's presence? Seeking his guidance? Are you looking for wisdom? Hungry for righteousness? Are you heartbroken? Crying out for help? Wondering where God is? You'll find something here. Let's allow the Word to meet us where we are and lift our hearts to God. He is abundantly faithful. Even if we're walking through darkness, *he is radiant*. *Let's pray*.

### • PAUSE

"As I enter prayer now, I pause to be still; to breathe slowly; to re-center my scattered senses upon the presence of God." (Pete Greig, Lectio365)

"Jesus, I give everything and everyone to you. I give everything and everyone to you, God."  
(John Eldredge, Daily Pause)

*Pause and pray.*

As we read **Psalm 34** together, be open with the parts that confuse or challenge you; meditate on the parts that stand out to you:

***"1 I will extol the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips. 2 I will glory in the LORD; let the afflicted hear and rejoice. 3 Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together. 4 I sought the LORD, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears. 5 Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame. 6 This poor man called, and the LORD heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles. 7 The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them. 8 Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him. 9 Fear the LORD, you his holy people, for those who fear him lack nothing. 10 The lions may grow weak and hungry, but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing. 11 Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD. 12 Whoever of you loves life and desires to see many good days, 13 keep your tongue from evil and your lips from telling lies. 14 Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it. 15 The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and his ears are attentive to their cry; 16 but the face of the LORD is against those who do evil, to blot out their name from the earth. 17 The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. 18 The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. 19 The righteous person may have many troubles, but the LORD delivers him from them all; 20 he protects all his bones, not one of them will be broken. 21 Evil will slay the wicked; the foes of the righteous will be condemned. 22 The LORD will rescue his servants; no one who takes refuge in him will be condemned."***

- **SONG**

**“King of My Heart”**

**VERSE 1**

Let the King of my heart  
Be the mountain where I run  
The fountain I drink from  
Oh He is my song  
Let the King of my heart  
Be the shadow where I hide  
The ransom for my life  
Oh He is my song

**CHORUS**

You are good good oh  
You are good good oh

**VERSE 2**

Let the King of my heart  
Be the wind inside my sails  
The anchor in the waves

**(VERSE 2)**

Oh He is my song  
Let the King of my heart  
Be the fire inside my veins  
The echo of my days  
Oh He is my song

**BRIDGE**

You're never gonna let  
Never gonna let me down  
You're never gonna let  
Never gonna let me down

**ENDING**

When the night is holding on to me  
God is holding on  
When the night is holding on to me  
God is holding on

CCLI Song # 7046145 John Mark McMillan | Sarah McMillan © 2015 Meaux Jeux Music

- **PSALM 34: Promises for God's People**

Instead of breaking this one down section by section, we're going to just look at the highlights and from a few different angles. First: promises. There are many beautiful promises contained in this prayer. It is wise to interpret them thoughtfully within the bigger picture of Scripture, but even if these *living words* of God apply to our lives in different ways, soaking them in can strengthen our hearts and fill us with faith. Some can be seen as specific to the context of the Psalmist, some perhaps as “poetic hyperbole,” some as straightforward promises for anyone who believes! Whatever the case, it is empowering to remember all that God promises to his people. Here are some from Psalm 34:

***“Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame.” (v. 5)***

***“The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them.” (v. 7)***

***“Fear the LORD, you his holy people, for those who fear him lack nothing.” (v. 9)***

***“The lions may grow weak and hungry, but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.” (v. 10)***

***“The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and his ears are attentive to their cry; but the face of the LORD is against those who do evil, to blot out their name from the earth.” (v. 15-16)***

***“The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles.” (v. 17)***

***“The LORD will rescue his servants; no one who takes refuge in him will be condemned.” (v. 22)***

Which of these promises stands out most to you? Choose one and spend some time reflecting on it: meditate on it, repeat it to yourself, speak it out loud, let it guide your prayer. *Pause and Pray.*

- **PSALM 34: Prayers for Your Life**

Reflect some now on your own life: what part of this prayer resonates most with where you're at right now? Are you heartbroken? Looking for wisdom? Feeling troubled? Celebrating God's faithfulness? Captivated by his presence? Wrestling with injustice? Take time to reflect and pray on the passage that speaks most to you. Read it slowly. Repeat it. Meditate on it. Ask God to speak to you. *Pause and Pray.*

***"Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together." (v. 3)***

***"I sought the LORD, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears." (v. 4)***

***"Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him." (v. 8)***

***"Whoever of you loves life and desires to see many good days, keep your tongue from evil and your lips from telling lies. Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it." (v. 12-14)***

***"The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." (v. 18)***

***"The righteous person may have many troubles, but the LORD delivers him from them all." (v. 19)***

- **PSALM 34: Prayers for Others**

Finally, spend time praying for others. Reread the passages from both sections above. Who do you know that one of these verses would apply to? Someone who needs help? Who needs deliverance? Who needs salvation? Someone who needs wisdom? Who needs protection and freedom from fear? Who needs to encounter the goodness of God? Pick a verse that stands out to you and pray it over their lives. Pray specifically, with faith, and watch for God to move in their life. *Pause and Pray.*

- **SONG**

**"One Thing Remains"**

**VERSE 1**

Higher than the mountains that I face  
Stronger than the power of the grave  
Constant in the trial and the change  
One thing remains  
One thing remains

**VERSE 2**

On and on and on and on it goes  
It overwhelms and satisfies my soul  
And I never ever have to be afraid  
One thing remains  
One thing remains

**CHORUS**

Your love never fails  
It never gives up  
Never runs out on me  
Your love

**BRIDGE**

In death in life I'm confident and  
Covered by the power of Your great love  
My debt is paid there's nothing that  
Can separate my heart from your great love

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- **Closing**

***"Father, help me to live this day to the full, being true to you in every way. Jesus, help me to give myself away to others, being kind to everyone I meet. Spirit, help me to love the lost, proclaiming Christ in all I do and say. Amen."*** (Pete Greig, Lectio365)