

AUGUST 4-10

"Afraid of What God Might Do"

Trusting God even when circumstances are frightening, uncertain or illogical.

MONDAY 8/4

EXODUS 14:1-31

God told Moses to lead the Israelites to a place where they would appear trapped – facing the Red Sea with Pharaoh's army closing in. To human eyes, this looked like a setup for disaster. But God had a plan to reveal his power and deliver his people through impossible circumstances. In their fear, the Israelites cried out, and God responded by parting the sea. When we face situations that feel like dead ends or times when we can't see or understand what God is doing, God invites us to stand firm in faith and trust him to make a way.

1. What do you do when you feel surrounded by danger or defeat?

2. How has God been faithful to you in difficult times? Have you ever experienced God make a way when you couldn't imagine a way was possible?

1 SAMUEL 17:1-50

David stood before Goliath with no armor and no army, just a sling, five stones, and complete confidence in God. The odds were against him by every human measure, yet David's faith wasn't in his strength but in God's power. This story reminds us that God doesn't require ideal conditions or impressive credentials or extensive training to accomplish his purposes. God looks for willing hearts that trust him even when the battle looks impossible.

- 1. What personal "Goliaths" are you facing (or have you faced in the past) that seem too big to overcome?
- 2. What does it mean to you to have faith, especially when people around you doubt what God can do?

WEDNESDAY 8/6 2 CORINTHIANS 1:3-10

Paul writes about the crushing pressure he experienced, feeling burdened beyond his ability to endure. Yet through it, he learned not to rely on himself but on God, who raises the dead. Even in deep despair, Paul testifies to God's comfort and deliverance. When life feels too heavy or uncertain, we are invited to shift our dependence from ourselves to the One who holds power over life and death.

- 1. Have you ever felt like you were under more pressure than you could handle? What did you learn through it?
- 2. How have you experienced the comfort of God (or shared God's comfort with someone else) in a difficult season?

James challenges us to consider trials as a reason for joy, not because hardship is pleasant, but because God uses difficult times to mature us in our faith. When life feels unstable and we lack direction, God invites us to ask for wisdom and to trust that he gives generously. But this passage also warns against divided loyalty — faith that wavers with circumstances leaves us unstable. Real growth happens when we trust God's goodness, even when we can't see the outcome.

- 1. What would it look like to trust God without wavering, even when answers aren't immediate?
- 2. How is God using your current challenges to shape perseverance and spiritual maturity in you?

FRIDAY 8/8

PSALM 27

David declares boldly that the Lord is his light, salvation, and stronghold – words spoken not in a time of comfort but in a season of conflict. He was surrounded by enemies, yet his confidence rested not in his circumstances but in the unshakable presence of God. When fear threatens to take hold, we are reminded to anchor our hearts in who God is rather than what we see. Faith allows us to move forward, not because the danger disappears, but because God goes before us.

- 1. What are some "enemies" in your life? They don't have to be people: circumstances and problems can also be our enemies…
- 2. What does it look like to make God your "stronghold" in a real way every day?

SATURDAY/ SUNDAY 8/9-10

ACTS 9:1-31

Ananias was asked to do something terrifying—go to Saul, a known persecutor of Christians (he was "breathing out murderous threats" against the early Church). It made no human sense. But God had a bigger plan: Saul was being transformed into Paul, the one who would carry the gospel far beyond the people of Israel to the nations of the Gentiles. Ananias obeyed, despite his fear, and became part of Paul's story of redemption. This passage reminds us that God's purposes often involve us stepping into uncomfortable places, trusting that God sees the bigger picture we can't see.

- 1. When has God asked you to take a step that felt dangerous, uncertain, or confusing? How hard was it to take that step? Why?
- 2. What does Ananias' faithfulness teach you about God's ability to transform even the most frightening situations?

"The Lord is my light and my salvation – whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life – of whom shall I be afraid?"

(Psalm 27:1)

NOTES	