

## Wednesday Word Meditation Material (May 6, 2020)

Order/Prayer → Praise → Scripture → Understanding Scripture → Sharing → Prayer → Lord's Prayer
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- ❖ **Prayer** – One of the family members or Individual
- ❖ **Praise** – If possible, Hymns 463 & 464 are to be sung. If not, please sing any good Christian song
- ❖ **Scripture Reading** – Psalm 4:1~8
- ❖ **Meditation on Scripture**
  1. David, the writer, cried out the difficulties related to the evil who disgrace the name of God, do not feel anything reluctant to do evil, and serve the fake gods(v.2) because there is no judgment of God against them(v.1). In this prayer, however, he tries to encourage the believers including himself that God would listen to their prayer and take care of them who are devoted to their Christian faith and trying to live as the children of God in their life context(v.3).
  2. Therefore, David encourages them that they would “not sin” with the evil, rather “be angry”(v.4) and “ponder in your own hearts on your beds”(v.4) as well as “be silent”(v.4), even though the evil seems to be strong. Along with them, David encourages the godly (believers) to “offer right sacrifices”(live like God’s children in their life context) and “put your trust in the Lord”(v.5). But, oppositely from David’s encouragement, the normal people cannot help but to ask “who will show us some good” (good results)(v.6), because when the evil seems prevailed, the weak (the isolated) cannot but to pray like this.
  3. David, by reflecting this situation well, asks God’s grace, saying “Life up the light of Your face upon us, O Lord!”(v.6). If God lift up the light of His face upon us(the children of God), then there must be the protection of God. David compares his joy from God’s protection to “their grain and the wine abound.”(v.7), saying “You have put more joy in my heart than” the visible plentifulness from fields. He adds that he can sleep well **because of God’s joy in his heart** (v.8).
  4. In **The Analects**, an ancient Chinese book composed of a collection of sayings and ideas attributed to the Chinese philosopher Confucius and his contemporaries, mentions that people might kill the general of the most powerful nations in the world but cannot take the heart even from the lowest man in the normal nations.” That means that to take someone’s heart is impossible. In this time of difficulties, **if God give “the joy into our heart,”** then, as Jesus Christ clearly declared (So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and **no one will take your joy from you**. (Jn. 16:22 ESV)), no one can take our joy(hope, comfort, encouragement, self-esteem) from our heart.
- ❖ **Meditation on Grace**
  1. COVID-19 and individual and family problems, cares, and worries are always in our life. They seem bigger than God, more powerful than God, and more dreadful than God. We can think about them. If possible, please share what you have from your consideration.
  2. Among them, the living God, our heavenly Father, will keep us in our right way to which all the right children of God should go, by understanding our situation, having mercy on us, listening to our prayer, executing His plans for us, and giving us untakable joy into our heart.
- ❖ **Prayer** – Praying with the meditation and finishing with the Lord’s Prayer.