

**Wednesday Word Meditation Material (June 3, 2020)**

OrderPrayer → Praise → Scripture → Understanding Scripture → Meditation on Grace → Prayer → Lord's Prayer

- ❖ **Prayer** – One of the family members or Individual
- ❖ **Praise** – If possible, Hymns 135 & 184 are to be sung. If not, please sing any good Christian song
- ❖ **Scripture Reading** – Psalm 54:1~7
- ❖ **Understanding Scripture**
  1. The background of this psalm is written before verse 1, saying “when the Ziphites went and told Saul, “Is not David hiding among us?” The Ziphites were living in Ziph area.
  2. The historical background of this text is written in **1Samuel 23:19~23** more in detail. According to the text, the Ziphites went up to Saul at Gibeah, saying, “Is not David hiding among us in the strongholds at Horesh, on the hill of Hachilah, which is south of Jeshimon?” **Because of them, David met big life-threatening situation.**
  3. In that situation, this psalm was written. In an urgent situation, David cried out “O God, save me by your name, and vindicate me by your might.”(v.1). He petitions, saying “hear my prayer; give ear to the words of my mouth”(v.2). He knows that this urgent threat occurs because of the report of the Ziphites and points them as the center of this(v.3) by mentioning them as “strangers have risen against me.” The reason why David calls God and asks Him to help is written in verse 4: God is my helper; the Lord is the upholder of my life. To David, God has been His helper, upholder of his life since his existence on earth. He confesses that here. Also he requests God to punish them, saying “He will return the evil to my enemies; in your faithfulness put an end to them”(v.5). David relies on God’s faithfulness by which God would put an end to them.
  4. If God allows his prayer and request to be realized so He preserves David’s life, then David wants to offer “freewill offering”and give “thanks” to God’s good name(v.6). The basis for David’s faithful reliance on God for the salvation is written in verse 7. Yes, he clearly believes that God the Father can help and deliver him with responsibility from every trouble, and He can make David’s eyes to see the triumph on his enemies”(v.7). David, standing on his past experiences that God delivered him from all kinds of difficulties and enemies, can hand over all the life-threatening matters and persons to his heavenly Father even in this very urgent moment.
  5. According to 1Samuel 23:26~28, God made a new situation that the Philistines invaded in the territory of Israel suddenly and king Saul should return to his place in order to fight against them. So, David, as he prayed, was safely delivered from his enemies’ hands.
- ❖ **Meditation on Grace**
  1. When we look at COVID-19, because we can feel it like sudden and dastardly, we can consider COVID-19 as “enemy.” It destroys our heart and body, causes parents to experience difficulties and children to be troubled with unbearable environment, and brings to us the anxiety for the future. Why don’t we share the matters like enemies with one another as well as express them in our own mouths?
  2. As God did deliverance to David in his desperate situation, so does He in our situation. Let us try to find the moments in our lives and share them together. As well as, let us humbly rely on Father God for anything, shown to us enemies(difficulties) in relation to COVID-19!
- ❖ **Prayer** – Praying with the meditation and finishing with the Lord’s Prayer.