



6/23/26

When I was working on my Masters of Biblical Counseling, I had to pick a verse as my life verse and then write a paper on how I would use that verse to define my life goals. It really made me think about what really matters and what doesn't fit with my scripture. Have you ever thought of this? God's goal for us is to make us holy like He is... set apart... sanctified... pure. If God's goal for us is to make us holy, how are we doing at cooperating with Him in that goal? That is a sobering question to me. 😊

*Blessings,
Jonna*

Psalm 86:1-13

Both men and women are called to build a godly home wherever we are, whoever we're with. A godly home is a home filled with people who are devoted to God. A godly person is weak... yes, weak in himself... but strong in the Lord.

I love David's example of this. In 1 Samuel 13:14, he was called "a man after God's own heart." Why? He was not perfect by any means! But he was humble and repentant. He who was a warrior and a king described himself as one who is "poor and needy." This is what a godly person is... not perfect at all... but one who recognizes his or her need, and worships the one who is able to provide, love, and protect like no other.

O Lord, as I look at this passage in Psalm 86, please help me to come to You as one who is ALWAYS poor and needy, ALWAYS in need of Your grace and mercy, and ALWAYS confident that You receive me into Your presence before Your throne of grace to receive mercy and to find grace in my time of need (Hebrews 4:16), which is ALWAYS.

Vs. 1 ~ "Incline Your ear, O LORD Yahweh, and answer me, for I am poor and needy."

I have to come to the Lord with humility. The truth is, I will refuse to come to the Lord if I'm proud. And if I do come in pride, I will come with demands that I have no right to require. So I

come to the one who is sovereign over all, in charge and in control. I come to the one who calls me in Isaiah 55:4, to incline MY ear to HIM! I come to the one who David says in Psalm 40:1, "I waited patiently for the Lord. He INCLINED to me and heard my cry."

To recognize that I'm poor and needy means that I will wait patiently for Him, trusting that He is my answer. The only answer I need is from You, O LORD Yahweh.

Vs. 2 ~ "Preserve my life, for I am godly; save Your servant, who trusts in You— You are my God."

I need the Lord to preserve my life... my earthly life and my eternal life. To say that I'm godly is not to say that He OWES me or that I DESERVE His help. It's simply to say that I'm devoted to Him and that I trust Him.

Do I really trust You, O Lord? Is my confidence in You? To trust You is to walk by faith, not by sight. It's to trust that You're doing something even when I can't see it. I confess to You the countless times I have NOT trusted You, that I muscled it. I have given You ultimatums and time limits. Who am I to tell the LORD GOD how to do His job??? O Lord, please forgive me. I am poor and needy... I am devoted to You... I am YOUR servant, not Your king!!! I trust You. You are my GOD, my Elohim, the one with all power, the only one who truly has the power to save and deliver.

Vs. 3 ~ "Be gracious to me, O Lord Adonai, Master, for to You do I cry all the day."

O Lord, I need Your grace, Your favor that I don't deserve, the generosity of Your love and charity toward me. I will cry out to You all day long... as long as it takes... because You hear my cry. I know that You are my only answer.

Vs. 4 ~ "Gladden the soul of Your servant, for to You, O Lord Adonai, Master, do I lift up my soul."

Again, I call myself Your servant. I have no joy apart from You. Your word says in John 15 that YOU fill me with Your joy, the only genuine joy, when I abide in You, when I let Your word abide in me, and when I abide in Your love. Being with You is all I need to have joy in my soul. Your joy is my strength.

I lift up my soul to You because You are the one who has breathed life into my soul. You are the source and sustainer of my life. Where else would I go?

Vs. 5 ~ "For You, O Lord Adonai, Master, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon You."

I am poor and needy before You... devoted to You... serving You... trusting You... crying out to

You... and lifting up my soul to You BECAUSE...

- *You are good! Everything about You is good. The Hebrew word for good is "towb." This is what the word encompasses... You are "good, pleasant, agreeable, beneficial, beautiful, best, better, bountiful, cheerful, at ease, fair, favor, fine, glad, goodly, graciously, joyful, kindly, loving, merry, pleasant, precious, prosperity, ready, sweet, wealth, welfare, well-favored." No one compares to You!!!*
- *You are forgiving! Not only are You forgiving but the meaning of this word includes that You are also always READY to forgive!!! You never push me away and say, "Talk to the hand!" My devotion to You, sadly, does not mean that I will never sin against You. I need You to be ready to forgive me because I always give You something to forgive. O Lord, I praise You that You not only forgive me, but You are transforming me so that I become more and more like Jesus, free from sin. Not only free from the guilt of sin, but free from the action of sin so that I can be holy as You are holy.*
- *You ABOUND in steadfast love for all who call upon You. It does not mean Your love is for those who are perfect, or I would be without hope. But You are devoted to me in Your tender, affectionate, sacrificial, unconditional love that is not dependent on me at all. The only difference between the one who does and the one who doesn't EXPERIENCE Your love is... the one who experiences Your love calls on You. I pray that You will be the first Person I go to and cry out to as a child goes to her mom or dad when she's hurt or scared. You are not just Yahweh to me. You are Abba, Father.*

Vs. 6-7 ~ "Give ear, O LORD Yahweh, to my prayer; listen to my plea for grace. In the day of my trouble I call upon You, for You answer me."

O Lord, let me never think that I need to clean myself up and make myself strong to come to You! That's crazy!!! I am poor and needy! I am weak, but in Your eyes, I am never worthless. You care and You answer.

I just recently was struggling with resentment and the beginning of bitterness for a few days. I knew I was wrong. I felt like I couldn't control it. I remembered another situation where I had begged the Lord to help me not to explode in anger... and it didn't work! I remember crying out to Him, "Lord, I ASKED You to help me. Why didn't You???" In my heart, He said to me, "You were asking Me to help you stuff the anger. My plan was to free You from the anger." I knew He was right, of course. And I remembered that in this recent situation, too. He reminded me of Psalm 118:5-6, "Out of my distress I called on the LORD; the LORD answered me and set me free. The LORD is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me?" In that moment, You released me from the anger and frustration!!! I praise You that You are so faithful when I'm willing to call on You for help!!! You lavish me with Your grace! You set me free.

Vs. 8-10 ~ "There is none like You among the gods, O Lord Adonai, nor are there any works like

Yours. All the nations You have made shall come and worship before You, O Lord Adonai, and shall glorify Your name. For You are great and do wondrous things; You alone are God."

Who could I ever go to for answers that compares to You, O Lord? Who can do works like Yours? Father, I HAVE gone to other gods. Why would I do that? Other gods give promises to feed my flesh, my selfish desires with things that satisfy. I get drawn to their lies. They cannot deliver. Please open my eyes to see that there IS NO ONE like You!!!

You are Creator! You fashion the souls of mankind! And there will be a day when "every knee will bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess, that Jesus Christ is LORD, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:10-11). I praise You that I am with You. I confess You as Lord NOW!!!

You alone are God. You alone do works that cannot be matched by anyone. The devil wants me to believe that he is at least as powerful as You. He's a liar and the father of lies. Someday he will bow to You as You send him to his eternal destiny, the lake of fire. Praise the name of JESUS who conquered sin and death for me!!!

And now I come to my prayer...

Vs. 11 ~ "Teach me Your way, O LORD Yahweh, that I may walk in Your truth; unite my heart to fear Your name."

Teach me YOUR way... Jesus is the Way! O Holy Spirit, You are my Teacher. This is a supernatural training that I have no power to learn on my own. Help me to be a diligent, faithful disciple!!!

I want to walk in YOUR truth... JESUS is the truth. Your WORD is truth. Please sanctify me in Your truth... so that I look for no other truth.

Unite my heart to fear Your name... O Lord, my heart can be so divided. Please help my heart to beat only for You. I know that the more I give my heart to You, the more reason I have to be in awe of You, to worship You. That's what the fear of the Lord is. Please make this so in me. I recognize that I cannot make this happen. With me, it is impossible. But with You, all things are possible!!!

Vs. 12-13 ~ I give thanks to You, O Lord Adonai my God Elohim, with my whole heart, and I will glorify Your name forever. For great is Your steadfast love toward me; You have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol."

Why am I poor and needy before You? Why am I devoted to You? Why do I pray for You to give me an undivided heart for You? Why do I say that I will thank You with my whole, undivided heart? Why do I want to glorify Your name forever??? No one loves me like You love me. No one knows what's in my heart like You do... all the good, the bad, and the ugly... so much

ugly... Your love for me is so great that rather than condemning me in my sin, You grieve for me. And rather than abandoning me in my sin, You delivered me by pouring out Your soul to death so that I could be forgiven. No one else loves me like You do. No one else has the power to forgive and deliver like You do.

O Lord, I am poor and needy... and You hear my cry.

I am devoted to You... and You preserve me.

I trust You... and You save me.

I cry to You... and You are gracious to me.

I serve You... and You fill me with joy.

I lift up my soul to You... and You are good, forgiving, and abounding in steadfast love for me.

I pray to You... and You answer me.

You are my YAHWEH, my Adonai, my Elohim, my Abba. Praise Your name.