

## **Oct. 11      A place of Testing & Refuge**

Lesson 1: Learning to Trust God.

Psalm 23:1-4

<sup>1</sup>The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.  
<sup>2</sup>He makes me lie down in green pastures,  
he leads me beside quiet waters, <sup>3</sup>he restores my soul.  
He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.  
<sup>4</sup>Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil, for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Lesson 2: learning to Wait on God—

Psalm 27:7-14

<sup>7</sup>Hear my voice when I call, O Lord; be merciful to me and answer me.  
<sup>8</sup>My heart says of you, "Seek his face!" Your face, Lord, I will seek.  
<sup>9</sup>Do not hide your face from me, do not turn your servant away in anger;  
you have been my helper. Do not reject me or forsake me, O God my Savior.  
<sup>10</sup>Though my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will receive me.  
<sup>11</sup>Teach me your way, O Lord; lead me in a straight path because of my oppressors.  
<sup>12</sup>Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes, for false witnesses rise up against me,  
breathing out violence. <sup>13</sup>I am still confident of this:  
I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.  
<sup>14</sup>Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

Lesson 3 Character Development—

Psalm 37:16-24

<sup>16</sup>Better the little that the righteous have than the wealth of many wicked;  
<sup>17</sup>for the power of the wicked will be broken, but the Lord upholds the righteous.  
<sup>18</sup>The days of the blameless are known to the Lord, and their inheritance will endure forever.  
<sup>19</sup>In times of disaster they will not wither; in days of famine they will enjoy plenty.  
<sup>20</sup>But the wicked will perish:  
The Lord's enemies will be like the beauty of the fields, they will vanish—vanish like smoke.  
<sup>21</sup>The wicked borrow and do not repay, but the righteous give generously;  
<sup>22</sup>those the Lord blesses will inherit the land, but those he curses will be cut off.

<sup>23</sup>If the Lord delights in a man's way, he makes his steps firm;

<sup>24</sup>though he stumble, he will not fall, for the Lord upholds him with his hand.

1 Kings 19:3-5a

<sup>3</sup>Elijah was afraid and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, <sup>4</sup>while he himself went a day's journey into the desert. He came to a broom tree, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, Lord," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors." <sup>5</sup>Then he lay down under the tree and fell asleep.

1 Kings 19:5b-6

All at once an angel touched him and said, "Get up and eat." <sup>6</sup>He looked around, and there by his head was a cake of bread baked over hot coals, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again.

1 Kings 19:7-8

<sup>7</sup>The angel of the Lord came back a second time and touched him and said, "Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you." <sup>8</sup>So he got up and ate and drank. Strengthened by that food, he traveled forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.

1 Kings 19:9b-12

And the word of the Lord came to him: "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

<sup>10</sup>He replied, "I have been very zealous for the Lord God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too."

<sup>11</sup>The Lord said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by."

Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. <sup>12</sup>After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper