



ShalomAZ Ministries

In Pursuit of Israel's Redemption

“Like a Child: The Secret to the Peace You’ve Been Missing”

Rabbi Cosmo Panzetta

Devotion and Discussion Questions

Key Texts: Psalm 131; Psalm 74; Luke 18:17

This morning, I want to invite you into what David calls the *secret place*. It’s that place of quiet worship, of resting in God’s presence, of laying aside striving and simply trusting Him. Psalm 131 is a very short psalm, but it gives us a picture of what real peace looks like. David describes himself as calm and quiet, like a weaned child with its mother. That’s an image of security, satisfaction, and trust.

Now, many of us didn’t grow up with a perfect childhood. Some of us knew safety and warmth, others grew up with uncertainty or even pain. But here’s the good news—God invites each of us to come to Him with the trust of a child. Yeshua said, *“Truly, I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it”* (Luke 18:17, TLV).

Children don’t come to their parents with resumes or achievements. They come with open hands and open hearts. That’s how the Lord invites us to come—to stop carrying the weight of the world on our shoulders, and instead to lean into His strength, His wisdom, His timing.

1. CHILDLIKE TRUST, NOT PRIDEFUL STRIVING

David begins in Psalm 131 saying, *“Adonai, my heart is not proud, nor my eyes lofty, nor do I go after things too great or too difficult for me”* (Psalm 131:1, TLV). He’s not saying we shouldn’t dream big or step into God’s plans. He’s saying we shouldn’t try to be God.

Pride tells us that we have to carry it all, figure it all out, and solve every problem. But childlike faith reminds us—He carries the weight. Think of a child helping a father carry something heavy. The child puts a hand on it, but if the father lets go, the child would be crushed. That’s how it is with us. We don’t carry the real weight—He does.

When we live like everything depends on us, anxiety overwhelms us. But when we entrust our lives to Him, there’s a calm that takes over, because we know He’s the one doing the wonders, not us.

2. THE QUIET REST OF A WEANED CHILD

David says, *“Surely I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with his mother, like a weaned child is my soul within me”* (Psalm 131:2, TLV). This is not a picture of frantic need, but of settled trust.

A weaned child has learned that being near the mother is enough. There is contentment, peace, and satisfaction. That’s the life God is inviting us into—not restless comparison, not anxious scrambling, not performance-driven striving. But fullness and maturity that comes from knowing: “God, You have accomplished it. You are enough.” This quiet

doesn't come from emptying our minds like the world teaches. It comes from filling our hearts with His presence, remembering His faithfulness, and resting in His care.

3. LIFELONG TRUST THAT BECOMES GENERATIONAL FAITH

Psalm 71 zooms out and shows us what childlike trust looks like over a lifetime. The psalmist says, *"For You are my hope, my Lord Adonai, my trust from my youth. From my birth I have leaned on You; You took me out from my mother's womb. My praise is always about You"* (Psalm 71:5–6, TLV). From the womb, through youth, and even into old age, the call is the same: keep trusting Him. Even when strength fades, when enemies surround, when life feels fragile—the psalmist says, *"But I, as for me, I will hope continually, and will praise You more and more"* (Psalm 71:14, TLV).

This trust is not just for us—it becomes generational. He prays, *"Even until I am old and gray, O God, do not forsake me, till I tell of Your strong arm to the next generation"* (Psalm 71:18, TLV). Our childlike faith grows into steady testimony that passes on to children, grandchildren, neighbors, and the community around us. That's the legacy of trust.

CONCLUSION

The peace you've been aching for doesn't come from control. It doesn't come from having all the answers. It comes from childlike trust. It comes from resting in the arms of your Father, letting Him carry the weight, and learning to be still in His presence. Yeshua is inviting us today: stop striving, stop scrambling, stop comparing. Rest like a weaned child in the arms of your God. He's been faithful from the womb, and He'll be faithful to gray hairs.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What does it mean to you personally to "receive the kingdom like a child" (Luke 18:17)?
2. How do pride and self-sufficiency keep us from experiencing God's peace?
3. In what ways does the image of a "weaned child" speak to your relationship with God?
4. How can we cultivate lifelong trust that endures from youth to old age?
5. What are practical ways we can pass on childlike faith to the next generation?

CLOSING PRAYER:

Abba, we quiet our hearts before You today. Thank You that You are the one who carries the weight, the one who does wonders, the one who sustains us from birth to old age. Teach us to trust You like children, to rest in Your presence, and to find peace in Your arms. For every anxious heart, bring calm. For every restless soul, bring quiet. May our faith not only endure but be passed on to generations to come. We trust You, and we love You. In Yeshua's name—Amen.