

November 27

Psalm 46:1 (AMP) God is our refuge and strength [mighty and impenetrable],
A very present *and* well-proved help in trouble.

Shawn set out to build a shop for himself because he felt he knew enough to complete the job himself. After looking over a basic set of plans, he ordered the material and began the project. The first few steps were straight-forward, and he had no trouble mastering them. However, as he moved to the more complicated portion of the building, his confidence began to waver. Not wanting to make a mistake, he called Stu, a good friend who had more experience. Stu agreed, and, after looking over the plans, he explained to Shawn what needed to be done. Shawn, however, kept adding to Stu's instructions and doing things his way. After more discussion, Stu asked his friend, "Why did you ask for my help if you aren't going to listen to me?"

This has been one of my favorite verses for a long time. When I find myself in a trying situation, I call out to the Lord because He is our refuge and strength. He is always ready to come to our aid and help. I have prayed it over myself and many others. However, I have discovered that we can, at times, act like Shawn. We ask the Lord for His help and then proceed to tell Him how to help. That process is futile because we, who need the help, want to help God as He helps us. When we call on Him, we are to have faith and trust. We are to have faith that He hears us and will come to our aid. We are to trust that He knows the best way to help us. His help seldom matches what we believe our help should resemble. The Lord our God is mighty. He is all-knowing. He understands each of us better than we understand ourselves. When we are in need, we are to cry out to Him for help. Once we do, we place ourselves in His hands. The best we can do is listen and obey.