



# PRAYING the PSALMS

A PRAYER INSPIRED BY READING PSALM 119:81-112

BY SHEILA LUTZ

**Steadfast Lord**, You are my hope and salvation, for Your sure Word has declared it. I come to You to meditate on Your Word, thankful that I am Your child.

I pray today for those who are humbly quiet as they serve, the unnoticed who often must endure the strong-willed, perform the tasks that aren't at the top of the list, listen to bragging of those they serve, and suffer the bullying of those who would demean them. Help them endure. Give them Your strength.

**God of Justice**, I love Your law. I love the way You repeat things in Your Word, sometimes using the same words and sometimes using different examples, so that we understand Your Word, Your Law, Your Commandments, Your Precepts, Your Testimonies. How often these have comforted me in ways nothing else could. They are steadfast, trustworthy, sure, perfect, and loving. When I want to run away from Your Law, please accept Christ's perfect keeping of the Law on my behalf. Your Word lasts forever!

**Savior mine**, I pray for those who are in danger because of illness or injury. Let Your Word be their delight as it has been mine, so they do not perish in their affliction. We are Yours, and we know You will save us ... for You love us ... for the Bible tells us so. Give them Your comfort and patience in trial.

**O Spirit Who calls us**, thank You for calling and teaching and granting wisdom to those who gain knowledge to shepherd us. I thank You today for the pastors who study Your Word, follow Your path, and live out Your ways. You have given them a heart for Your people, a heart for Your Word, and a heart for love alone.

**Source of Truth**, Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. In joy and in sorrow, Your words are music to my soul — a sweet joy that holds me close, sustains me, and lifts my days. I humbly say, "Thank You, my Lord and my God."

Thank You for loving me always and teaching me always — when I foolishly try to hold my life in my own hands and when Your wisdom pervades my soul to make me know that You hold every aspect of my being in Yours. In Christ, You accept me as I am. You accept my offerings. You accept my praise. In all this, I remember the teachings of my youth, so I do not stray from You. From my mother's womb, You have held me in the palm of Your hand, and Your Word has been my heritage ... my family's heritage ... my church's heritage ... from generation to generation.

**God of Love**, You have inclined Your heart to me and my brothers and sisters in Christ. I pray that we will continue to incline our hearts to You, to Your love, and to Your Word so that we may obey You, love Your people, and spread Your message of salvation.

My life is in Your hands. Hear my humble prayer, O my gracious God. Amen. **Q**