

In His Shadow

A Workbook for Memorizing

Psalm 91

by

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Introduction

You are about to start a wonderful adventure! Memorizing Scripture is an awesome privilege. God doesn't talk to us out loud very much any more, but He has given us a book in which He has written everything that is important for us to know. So when you read or memorize the Bible, always remember that it isn't like any other book - it is the *all-powerful, never failing Word of God*. It is God speaking to you. And you can be more sure of what God says in His book than you can of anything else in this whole world. You can know that He says what He means and means what He says.

As you store His Word in your heart, never forget that God loves you more than anyone else in the whole world. He wants you to learn about Him. He wants you to know how to be happy in this world that He has made for you. He wants to warn you about things to avoid - things that could be hurtful to you and to others. Also when you memorize Scripture you can know that you will always have God's very words with you in your heart and in your mind throughout your entire life. He will always be able to speak to you - no matter what happens and no matter where you are.

Psalm 91 is one of many "Psalms" recorded in the Bible. A psalm is like a hymn or song of praise to the Lord. Psalms were written by many different men at different times in history. Some were written by David, others by Moses or other men of God. We don't know who God used to write Psalm 91, but II Timothy 3:16 tells us that even though we may not know who actually wrote the words, it was God who told him what to write. This is a very beautiful Psalm and one you will enjoy memorizing. It will be a great blessing and encouragement to you - both now, and in the years ahead.

As you memorize each verse be sure you can say it without making any mistakes, then quote it to one of your parents, or another adult who will help you, before filling in the blanks of the "Steps". And always be sure you know the prior verses well before going on to the next one. Say the Scripture you have learned often - to yourself and out loud - while you're about your daily duties and chores, riding in the car, lying in bed and whenever possible. The more often you say it, the easier it will be to remember and writing it out will also help to impress it on your memory.

(Our book, *The Sword! Scripture Memorization: A Must For Today* is a great motivational and informative text book that included helps and hints to help you in memorizing longer portions of Scripture.)

Psalm 91:1

Psalm 91:1 - He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

The first verse in this Psalm is the most important verse in the whole Psalm because it tells us what the rest of the Psalm is about. We call it the "key" verse. Do you know what the word "dwell" means? It means "to live". Your home is your "dwelling". This is the place where you "dwell" or "live". The psalmist tells us that if we "live" in His shelter our Lord will be our protection. But what does it mean to "live" in the Lord? I John 3:26 tells us "*Those who obey His commands 'live' in Him. . . .*" We live or "dwell" in His shelter when we do what He has commanded in His Word. To dwell in His shelter is to walk with Him all the time - not doing what He says one day and doing our own thing the next. It's like walking in His shadow.

Your shadow is always close to you, isn't it? You can't be "here" and your shadow "over there". So to be in someone's shadow we have to be close to them. And to be in the Lord's shadow is to be in His protection. When we walk in His shadow, He will always be there to protect us. *(Be sure to say this verse to one of your parents or another adult before filling in the Steps below.)*

Small Step:

Vs. 1 - He who dwells in _____ shelter of _____ Most _____ will rest in _____ shadow of _____ Almighty.

(Cover up the steps as you complete them so you won't be tempted to look back at the answers.)

Medium Step:

Vs. 1 - He who _____ in the _____ of the _____ High will _____ in the _____ of the _____ .

Big Step:

Vs. 1 - _____ who _____ in _____ shelter _____ the _____ will rest in _____ shadow of _____ .

Giant Step:

Vs. 1 - He _____

Psalm 91:2

Psalm 91:2 - I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

A "refuge" is a place of safety, isn't it? Do you know what a "fortress" is? Look at the first part of the word. What do the first four letters spell? They spell "fort" don't they? You may not know the word "fortress", but it just means "fort". I'm sure you've seen "forts" in Westerns on T.V. Like "Fort Apache". In the days of bows and arrows before airplanes, atomic bombs and such, people built forts for protection against their enemies. In times of danger, a fort was a "refuge" where people could run in and be safe from their enemies.

When I was in New Mexico I saw a tower that was a fortress for the settlers to run into when the Indians attacked. It was round and tall and although quite small, it did have two stories. The walls were thick and built of stones so it would have been difficult to break into. Proverbs 18:10 says, *"The name of the Lord is a strong tower the righteous run to it and are safe."* Forts that men build help to protect, but they are not fool proof, are they? I'm sure you've seen forts in westerns, that the Indians broke into and took over. But do you think anyone could break into the Lord's fort? I don't think so either. If the Lord is our fortress, we can be sure we are safe and secure in His protection. (Write out verse 1 to be sure you know it and then say verses 1 and 2 together to one of your parents or another adult.)

Small Step:

Vs. 2 - I will say of the Lord, "He is _____ refuge and _____ fortress, _____ God, in _____ I trust." (Don't forget to cover up the steps as you go along. There's always the temptation to look back at the answers if your don't.)

Medium Step:

Vs. 2 - I will _____ of the _____, " _____ is my _____ and my _____ my _____, in whom I trust."

Big Step:

Vs. 2 - I _____ say _____ Lord, "He _____ my _____ and _____, my God, _____ I _____."

Giant Step:

Vs. 2 - I _____

Psalm 91:3

Psalm 91:3 - Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence.

"Fowler"! That's a word we don't hear every day. Again, what do the first four letters spell? A "fowl" is a bird, isn't it? A "fowler" was someone who hunted birds. Today men shoot ducks and geese for food and sport, but in those days, they didn't have guns so they used to set snares and traps to catch birds. They would put some tasty morsel in the trap - something that looked so good the bird just couldn't resist. But when it reached for the goodie, "Zap!", the trap would snap shut and the bird would be hopelessly caught.

We have an enemy who sets traps and snares for us. Oh, he will always bait it with something very enticing to attract our attention, but we need to know that anything that is not of the Lord will end up being hurtful. Whenever we fall for Satan's tricks, his trap will snap shut and we will often be caught in a far worse situation than we ever thought. But if we walk close to the Lord, in His shadow, He can point out the traps and guide us in a safe way.

"Pestilence" is an illness or plague. This verse talks about a "deadly pestilence" so it is a very serious illness that causes death. What do you think, can our Lord take care of any illness that may come our way? What does this verse say? (Write out verses 1 & 2 to be sure you know them and then quote verses 1, 2 and 3 to one of your parents or another adult.)

Small Step:

Vs. 3 - Surely he _____ save you _____ the fowler's snare and _____ the _____ pestilence. (Be sure to cover up the steps as you go along, then you won't be tempted to look back at the answers.)

Medium Step:

Vs. 3 - Surely he will _____ you from the _____ snare _____ from _____ deadly _____.

Big Step:

Vs. 3 - _____ he _____ save _____ from the _____ snare _____ from _____

Giant Step:

Vs. 3 - Surely _____

Psalm 91:4a

Psalm 91:4a - He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge;

Have you ever seen an old mother hen with her fluffy little chicks? When danger threatens, she clucks away and all her little flock comes running from every direction. Then she fluffs up her feathers real big and the little chicks crawl up into a nice soft place under her wings where they are safe and warm. There they sleep completely protected from the cold and the world of danger outside. If one of the little chickens decides he wants to go it on his own he would probably die from the cold or fall prey to a wild animal because baby chickens can't run very fast, and they are too little to protect themselves. To be safe, the chicks must stay close to mom and be quick to run to her when danger threatens.

You and I are just like baby chickens that are completely helpless in a big world of danger. That is why almost every verse in this Psalm reminds us how important it is for us to stay close to our Lord. There is no way we can make it on our own but we have One who is all powerful and completely in control. When we trust Him and stay close by His side, we are as snug and safe as a little chicken under its mother's wing. *(I think you know, don't you, to write out verses 1,2 and 3 first, then say verses 1 through 4a to one of your parents or another adult.)*

Small Step:

Vs. 4a - He _____ cover you with his _____, and under his _____ you _____ find refuge; (You were going to cover up the Steps as you completed them, weren't you?)

Medium Step:

Vs. 4a _____ will cover _____ with _____ feathers, and _____ his wings _____ will _____;

Big Step:

Vs. 4a - _____ will _____ you _____ feathers, and under _____ wings _____ will _____ refuge;

Giant Step:

Vs. 4a - He _____

Psalm 91:4b

Psalm 91:4b - His faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

"Faithfulness" is a quality that you can count on no matter what happens. A "faithful" friend is one who will always stick by you through thick and thin. And who could be more faithful than our wonderful Lord?

Remember this Psalm was written before the days of modern weapons when wars were fought with swords and shields. In those days a shield was protection against the enemy's sword. It was basically the only protection they had when they were not inside the fortress. And a rampart was kind of like a mound of dirt that was piled around a fortress as further protection.

So, there you have it. The faithfulness of the Lord is our complete protection. Who would need anything more? And what more could we ever have? When our enemy throws his evil darts of temptation at us, we don't ever have to be afraid, because the Lord is our faithful fortress, our shield and our protection. *(Don't forget to write out verses 1,2 & 3, and quote all four verses to one of your parents or another adult before doing the Steps. And remember, the more often you say them the easier they will be to remember.)*

Small Step

Vs. 4b - _____ faithfulness will be _____ shield _____ rampart. (One more time. Be sure to cover up the steps as you complete them - you know why, don't you? From here on, I know you'll do it without being reminded)

Medium Step

Vs. 4b - his _____ will _____ your shield and _____ .

Big Step:

Vs. 4b - _____ faithfulness _____ be _____ and _____ .

Giant Step:

Vs. 4b _____

Psalm 91:5

Psalm 91:5 - You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day,

Have you ever been in a place where it's completely dark - where there's no light at all? It's pretty scary, isn't it? And it would be even worse, wouldn't it, if you knew there was danger lurking out there somewhere in the dark? But what about daytime if you had arrows flying all around you? The Lord tells us that even if we're in the scariest of situations we don't have to be afraid because He, our almighty God, is always going to be there to watch out for us.

This Psalm has been talking about night and terror, and arrows and shields and fortresses. What do we associate all these things with? Are we at war? In Ephesians 6:10-18 God tells us that we have an enemy who constantly plots our downfall. Oh, he's not one that we can see, and he doesn't use bombs and guns, he shoots arrows of temptation and discouragement into our lives. Always remember that he's always out there trying to lure us into his evil schemes. This is why it's so important for us to ask the Lord every day to help us walk with Him and resist the devil's temptations. *(Before you do the Steps today, write out only verses 3 and 4, but recite the Psalm from the beginning for one of your parents or another adult. Be sure to say the whole Psalm often to yourself and out loud as you're doing your chores, when you're riding in the car or lying in bed. This will help to impress it on your mind so you won't ever forget it.)*

Small Step:

Vs. 5 - You _____ not fear the terror of _____, nor the arrow _____ flies by _____,

Medium Step:

Vs. 5 - You will _____ fear _____ terror _____ night, _____ the arrow _____ flies _____ day,

Big Step:

Vs. 5 - _____ will not _____ the _____ of _____ nor the _____ that flies by _____,

Giant Step:

Vs. 5- You _____

Psalm 91:6

Psalm 91:6 - nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday.

In verse 5 we learned that we really don't have to be afraid of anything. Does this mean that we won't ever have anything scary happen to us? Verse 5 doesn't say that does it? It says that we don't have to *fear* anything. We don't have to be afraid of anything, no matter how scary it is. So when tough stuff comes along we need to put our trust in the Lord and know He is in charge.

Verse 5 talked about the terrors of "war", this verse goes in another direction. Here we have that word "pestilence" again. Do you remember what it means? That's right, it means sickness. "Plague" has the same kind of meaning. It's a terrible disease that's very contagious. It's more than just the flu, this thing can be fatal. And the Psalmist says it "stalks" in the night. That's like creeping up on us in the dark. Scary stuff, huh? Have you ever been sick in the night, I mean really sick? Can you imagine what it would be like to lie in bed - in the dark - (or even in the daytime) and be so sick you wonder if you're going to die. That's what this verse is talking about. But even if something like that happens to us, we can know that we don't have to be afraid, because the Lord is always right there with us to love us and assure us that we are in His care. *(Be sure to write out verses 3, 4 & 5 but quote the Psalm from the beginning to one of your parents or another adult.)*

Small Step:

Vs. 6 - nor _____ pestilence _____ stalks in _____
darkness, nor _____ plague that _____ at midday.

Medium Step:

Vs. 6 - _____ the pestilence that _____ in the
_____, _____ the _____ that destroys at
_____ .

Big Step:

Vs. 6 - nor the _____ that _____ in the
_____, nor the _____ that _____ at
_____ .

Giant Step:

Vs. 6 - nor _____

Psalm 91:7

Psalm 91:7 - A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it shall not come near you.

There are many times in this life when we, as Christians, have to stand alone. Those who do not know the Lord, and even many Christians look for easy ways. It's always going to be easier to go with the crowd and do what they're doing rather than stand alone for Jesus. But the easy path of the world is the path of evil, the path of danger, the path of heartache and sorrow. If someone wants you to do something that you are not sure of, always ask the Lord to show you His will, and ask yourself - "Is this something Jesus would do if He were here?" If it isn't, take the Lord's hand and He will help you to stand *with Him* even if you are the only one in a whole gang of people who are going for it.

Always remember that you are a child of the King of kings and He has called you to better things. Stay close to Him, stay in His shadow and He will always give you the strength to stand even if everyone around you is "falling" for an easier way. *(This time write out verses 4, 5 and 6, but recite the Psalm from the beginning to a parent or other adult.)*

Small Step:

Vs. 7 - A thousand _____ fall at _____ side, ten thousand at _____ right hand, _____ it shall not come _____ YOU. (Are you remembering to cover up the Steps as you go along?)

Medium Step:

Vs. 7 - _____ thousand may _____ at your _____, ten _____ at your _____ hand, but it _____ not come _____ you.

Big Step:

Vs. 7 - A _____ may _____ at _____ side, ten _____ at _____ right _____, _____ it shall _____ come _____ you.

Giant Step:

Vs. 7 - A _____

Psalm 91:8

Psalm 91:8 - You will only observe with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked.

Matthew 7:13 tells us that the gate is wide and the way is easy, that leads to destruction, and a lot of people go that way. But the gate that leads to life is narrow and the way is tough. Not very many people choose it. We learned about this in the last verse, didn't we?

Which road are you on? Have you ever asked Jesus to come into your heart and life? Are you still on that broad road that leads to everlasting punishment spoken of in this verse? We all start out on the broad road because we've all sinned and sin separates us from God. Because God is a righteous judge, he has to punish sin, just like a judge in our courts has to punish a thief or murderer, even if he is a good friend. God knew that our sins had to be punished. So He, God the Father, and His Son, Jesus, planned a way that would free us from the punishment of sin without us having to pay the price. Jesus left heaven and came to this earth. Although the devil tempted Him just like he does us, Jesus never once sinned. But Jesus died like a sinner on the cross because God put all of *our* sins on Him. Acts 16:31 says that if we believe this - if we ask the Lord to forgive us for all the wrong things we've done and ask Jesus to come into our heart and life, He will wash us clean from all our sins and we will never be punished for them. We may "see" the destruction of the those who reject Jesus, but anyone who knows Jesus as his Savior will be safe in heaven with Him forever. *(Write out verses 5, 6 and 7 this time, but when you recite to your adult helper always start at the beginning.)*

Small Step:

Vs. 8 - You _____ only observe _____ your eyes _____ see _____ punishment _____ wicked.

Medium Step:

Vs. 8 - _____ will _____ observe with _____ eyes and _____ the _____ of the _____.

Big Step:

Vs. 8 - _____ will _____ with your _____ and _____ the _____ of the wicked.

Giant Step:

Vs. 8 - You _____

Psalm 91:9

Psalm 91:9 - If you make the Most High your dwelling— even the Lord, who is my refuge—

This verse starts out with a very little word that has a big meaning - "IF". It means that we have a choice, we can do whatever we want to. The Lord will never make us do what is right, that has to be our choice. So we can either follow Him "if" we choose to, or do our own thing, "if" we choose to go that way. We have this choice to make many times every single day.

But why does the Lord want us to do *His* will. Is it just to make Him happy? Why would He be happy when we follow His way? He wants us to walk in His will because He knows that the straight path is the only way we can be happy. The broad road might be easier and look like more fun, but watch it, when the trap snaps shut we can end up very sad, and very sorry.

This verse reminds us that God will not *make* us do His will, but "if" we make Him our "dwelling" place - here is that word "dwelling" again - "if" we "live" in His presence - stay in His shadow - then . . . well we'll find out what He promises us in the next verse. (*This time write out verses 6, 7 and 8 but be sure to quote from the beginning.*)

Small Step:

Vs. 9 - If _____ make the _____ High _____ dwelling—
even _____ Lord, _____ is my _____—

Medium Step:

Vs. 9 - _____ you _____ the Most _____ your
_____— even the _____, who _____ my refuge—

Big Step:

Vs. 9 - If _____ make _____ Most _____ your
_____— even _____, _____ is my
_____—

Giant Step:

Vs. 9 - If _____

Psalm 91:10

Psalm 91:10 - . . . then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent.

Wow, that's really a promise, isn't it? Does it mean that nothing bad will ever happen to us? While we're here on this earth, we have to remember that we have a vicious enemy who is always out there trying to mess us up. The Bible says that everyone who wants to live for Jesus is going to suffer tough stuff. (II Tim 3:12)

But what *is* the worst thing that anyone could ever do to hurt you? Most of us would answer, "I guess it would be if they should kill me and I'd die". But the Lord said "*Do not be afraid of those who kill the body and after that can do no more.*" (Luke 12:4). Why? What happens to Christians when they die and leave this world? The Bible tells us "*When we suffer and die for Christ it only means that we will begin living with Him in heaven.*" (II Tim. 2:11LB) So is it such a terrible thing to die for Jesus? It would just mean that we'd leave the problems of this world behind and start living an exciting, wonderful, life with Jesus in heaven, doesn't it?

When the psalmist says no harm or disaster is going to happen to us, it means that when we put our hand in His, our God will never let anything happen to us that He will not work out for our ultimate good. He will always be with us, no matter what happens. No one will ever be able to harm our relationship with Him, or keep us away from His love. Who knows, we may at some point have to suffer because we are Christians, a lot of people have and some have died because of it. But we can know that when tough times come, our Lord will always be there to either guide us around them, rescue us from them, or He will hold our hand very tightly and walk us right through the middle. (*Write out verses 7, 8, and 9 but recite from the beginning.*)

Small Step:

Vs. 10. - . . . then no harm _____ befall _____, no disaster _____ come near _____ tent.

Medium Step:

Vs. 10 - . . . then _____ harm will _____ you, no _____ will come _____ your _____ .

Big Step:

Vs. 10 - . . . _____ no _____ befall you, no _____ will _____ near _____ tent.

Giant Step:

Vs. 10 - . . . then _____

Psalm 91:11

Psalm 91:11 - For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways;

How about that! Did you know that the Lord has given you your own private angels to watch over you? We can't see them, can we? But we know that they are with us because the Lord tells us in this verse that it is so. I have seen times when I have narrowly escaped some danger or tragedy, and I often think that it is a guardian angel watching over me that saved me from harm. Just the other day I had an accident and gashed my eyelid. It was just about a half inch away from my eye. If it had been just a smidgen higher it could have injured the eye itself and been very serious. I am sure it was a guardian angel that protected me from a very serious injury.

I bet you can remember something like this happening to you. Why don't you keep your eyes open for ways that you are being protected from harm. I am sure you will see your guardian angels at work in your life too. *(Write out verses 8, 9 and 10 this time before quoting the Psalm from the beginning to one of your parents or other adult.)*

Small Step:

Vs. 11 - For _____ will command his _____ concerning _____ to guard _____ in all your _____;

Medium Step:

Vs. 11 - _____ he will _____ his angels _____ you to _____ you in _____ your _____ ;

Big Step:

Vs. 11 - For _____ will _____ _____ angels _____ you to _____ _____ in all _____ ways ;

Giant Step:

Vs. 11 - For _____

Psalm 91:12

Psalm 91:12 - they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.

When you were little do you remember your parents picking you up and carrying you when you got tired or when the going got too rough? Why did they do that? Wasn't it because they didn't want you to fall down or hurt yourself?

Have you ever tried to scramble over stones. That's tough going isn't it? This is the picture the Lord is painting for us, here. The Lord tells us that if we get into a situation that is too hard for us to handle, our guardian angels will be there to just pick us up and carry us over it if they have to - to make sure we don't fall or hurt ourselves - just like our parents did when we were little. Isn't it a good feeling to know that we're never alone. Even if family or friends aren't with us, the Lord has given us angels to watch over us. They are always nearby, ready even to carry us if the path is too treacherous. *(I think you know to write out verses 9, 10 and 11 but recite the entire Psalm from the beginning.)*

Small Step:

Vs. 12 - they _____ lift you _____ in _____ hands, _____ that you _____ not strike your _____ against a _____. (Are you remembering to cover up the Steps as you go along?)

Medium Step:

Vs. 12. - _____ will _____ you _____ in their _____, so _____ you will not _____ your foot _____ a stone.

Big Step:

Vs. 12 - _____ lift _____ up _____ their _____, so that _____ will _____ your _____ against a _____.

Giant Step:

Vs. 12 - _____

Psalm 91:13

Psalm 91:13 - You will tread upon the lion and the cobra; you will trample the great lion and the serpent.

Wow!! Stepping on a lion or a poisonous snake! That's serious! The Bible says that Satan roams around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour and he came as a snake in the Garden of Eden, didn't he? So we know who the lion and the snake are. But his crafty tricks may not always be easy to recognize at first. Something may look very innocent at first and we may not see the danger until we're right in the middle of it.

One thing kind of like this might be picking someone for a good friend who doesn't know Jesus, and is not interested in walking with Him. You may even think you can introduce him to Jesus. But then as time goes on you realize that you are not helping him to do good things, he is talking you into things that are not good at all. That is like stepping on a poisonous snake. You may not see the danger at first, but like a snake it can end up biting you. This verse says that if we trust the Lord, and walk close to Him, He will be able to warn us about danger and save us from enemy traps. *(Now, it's verses 10, 11 & 12 that you write out, but recite from the beginning to one of your parents or other adult.)*

Small Step:

Vs. 13 - _____ will tread upon _____ lion and _____ cobra ;
_____ will trample _____ great _____ and _____ serpent.

Medium Step:

Vs. 13 - You will _____ upon the _____ and the _____ ;
you will _____ the great _____ and the _____ .

Big Step:

Vs. 13 - You _____ upon the _____ and _____
_____ ; you _____ trample the _____ and
the _____ .

Giant Step:

Vs. 13 - You _____

Psalm 91:14a

Psalm 91:14a - "Because he loves me," says the Lord, "I will rescue him;

Do you want people to love you? I think we would all answer "YES" to that question, wouldn't we? We all want to be loved. We often talk about how the Lord Jesus loves us, but did you ever stop to think that Jesus wants us to love Him, too? In fact, He created you and me because He wanted us to love Him. Oh, He won't *make* us love Him. He has given us a free will so we can choose to love Him and follow Him or we can choose not to love Him and walk however we like, as many people do. But for those who love Him and walk with Him, the Lord has promised very special things. I Corinthians 2:9 says that no one has ever seen or heard the things that God has prepared for those who love Him. In fact he says, even in our wildest dreams, we can't imagine how wonderful it is going to be.

The closing verses in this Psalm emphasize how precious our love is to the Lord. First of all He says because we love Him, He will always be with us to "rescue" us. What will he rescue us from? This entire Psalm has assured us that He is able to "rescue" us from every form of danger and harm. Our greatest danger is to fall into the hands of the great tempter who is determined to lure us away from the things of the Lord and into his way of sin and heartache. Always remember that the Lord is smarter and more powerful than Satan and if we learn to walk in His shadow, our Mighty God will always give us the strength and wisdom to recognize and resist any temptation Satan may throw in our path. (*Write out verses 11, 12 and 13, but don't forget to recite from the beginning.*)

Small Step:

Vs. 14a - "Because _____ loves _____ , " says the _____ , "I will rescue _____ ;

Medium Step:

Vs. 14a - " _____ he _____ me," says the _____ , "I _____ rescue _____ ;

Big Step:

Vs. 14a - " _____ he _____ me , " says _____ , "I will _____ ;

Giant Step:

Vs. 14a - "Because _____

Psalm 91:14b

Psalm 91:14b - I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name.

There are a lot of *names* for God given in the Bible. All of them have very special meanings and many books could be written about them. We'll look at only one here, the name of Jesus.

Acts 4:12 tells us, "*Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.*" It is only through *Jesus* that you and I can have our sins forgiven and know for sure that we will spend eternity with Him in all the glory and joys of heaven. There is no other way to heaven in all the earth, and no other name that will save us. So if we trust in *Jesus*, and reverently call on His *name* we know we are part of God's family and we know from this verse that He will always protect us.

Philippians 2:10 tells us that God has given Jesus a *name* that is above every other *name*. He says that "*at the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow . . . and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is the Lord . . .*" (Phillips) One day you and I will kneel before Jesus in person and worship Him in all His glory and majesty. But we won't be the only ones to bow before Him. Even those who rejected Jesus while they were here on this earth, those who hated Him and used His name to swear will one day bow down to the *name* of Jesus whether they want to or not. Always remember that *Jesus* is the most powerful word in the entire English language. Say it often - in prayer, in danger, in need, in sadness, in joy . . . Call on His *name* in your daily walk with Him wherever you are and whatever happens. (Again write out verses 11, 12 and 13 but quote the Psalm from the beginning.)

Small Step:

Vs. 14b - _____ will protect _____, for _____ acknowledges _____ name.

Medium Step:

Vs. 14b - I will _____ him, _____ he _____ my _____ .

Big Step:

Vs. 14b - _____ protect _____ , _____ my _____ .

Giant Step:

Vs. 14b - I _____

Psalm 91:15a

Psalm 91:15a - He will call upon me, and I will answer him;

In the last verse we talked a little bit about the *name* of Jesus. This verse tells us a little more about the power of that *name*. The Lord says that because we "love" Him and "acknowledge" His *name* He will answer our prayers. How about that? Does this mean that it will be Christmas every day - that we can ask for goodies all day long and the Lord will give them to us. I John 3:22 says that "*we will receive from (the Lord) anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases Him.*" That is what this whole Psalm is about, isn't it?

Jesus tells us in John 15:7 ". . . *"IF"* (the big IF) *If you live in me, and my words live in your hearts, you can ask for whatever you like and it will come true for you.*" (Phillips) Did you notice that part about His words "*living*" in our hearts? What does that mean? What are you doing right now? You are memorizing God's Word aren't you? You are hiding His words in your heart so that God's Holy Spirit can make them live in your life. Then as His words live in your heart and life, the things that please your Lord will be the things you want too. And as you pray for them, you can know He will answer your prayers.

So according to these verses, it is when God's Word lives in us and we learn to walk with Him that He can show us what to pray for. Oh, we may think we know what will make us happy but our loving Lord sees the future. He alone knows and wants only the very best for us and He will teach us how to pray in His will, if we ask Him. (*Write out verses 12, 13 and 14 but quote the Psalm from the beginning, won't you?*)

Small Step:

Vs. 15a - _____ will call upon _____ , and ____ will answer _____ ;

Medium Step:

Vs. 15a - He _____ call _____ me, _____ I _____ answer _____ ;

Big Step:

Vs. 15a - He _____ upon _____ , _____ I _____ him;

Giant Step:

Vs. 15a - He _____

Psalm 91:15b

Psalm 91:15b - I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him.

What do you think about when you're in trouble? Well we usually start looking for the best way out don't we? And we might start looking for someone to give us a hand don't you think? Well this entire Psalm has been telling us that the Lord will take care of us in all kinds of different ways no matter what sort of danger or trouble we may face - if only we will live close to Him and trust in His name. But just in case we don't have the picture yet, He tells us one more time in this verse.

He also says that He will "honor" us. What does this mean? Actually, the word "honor" has many meanings but I think the one that applies here is that the Lord will respect us and give us special recognition.

In the book of Revelation we are told about special rewards that will be given to those who "overcome". To "overcome" means to always walk in God's way and to resist temptation. And what does the Lord have waiting for those who overcome? We are told that they will "rule with Him", they will "sit with Him on His throne", and/or receive the beautiful "crown of life". That doesn't sound too shabby, does it? Would you like to earn rewards like that?

According to these verses in order for us to be honored by the Lord we must be careful not to wander off into enemy territory. If we love Him, we will want to do what pleases Him and stay close to Him - in His shadow. Only then can He direct us away from temptation and protect us from evil. (Write out verses 12, 13 and 14 but quote from the beginning.)

Small Step:

Vs. 15b - _____ will be with _____ in trouble, _____ will deliver _____ and honor _____ .

Medium Step:

Vs. 15b - I _____ be _____ him in _____, I will _____ him and _____ him.

Big Step:

Vs. 15b - I _____ with _____, _____ will _____ and _____ .

Giant Step:

Vs. 15b - I _____

Psalm 91:16

Psalm 91:16 - With long life will I satisfy him and show him my salvation."

This is the last and crowning verse in the psalm. Up until now, the Lord has been telling us how He will take care of us while we walk with Him here on this earth. This verse not only confirms His love and protection in this world, but tells us that His loving care will go with us right on into eternity.

"Salvation" is a big word that means to be saved from sin, it also means to be protected from harm. And God's "salvation" has no end because He and His love are forever. We don't know how long we will live on this earth, do we? Some people live to be very old, others die when they are very young. You and I may live many years or few, but if we know Jesus as our Savior, boy do we have a long, happy life to look forward to when we leave this planet. Just how long is forever? That's what it will be - *forever with Jesus!* So let's be sure to ask Him every day to help us to follow His commands, to live for Him and walk in His shadow, every minute of every day He gives us here on this earth.

Small Step:

Vs. 16 - _____ long life will _____ satisfy _____ and show _____ my salvation."

Medium Step:

Vs. 16 - With _____ life will I _____ him and _____ him my _____."

Big Step:

Vs. 16 - _____ _____ will I _____ him and _____ my _____."

Giant Step:

Vs. 16 - With _____

[This is the very last verse of Psalm 91. Now that you have completed all the Steps, see if you can write out the entire Psalm from the beginning with no errors. (Use your computer if you have one.) Then have one of your parents or another adult check it for you. Also be sure you can say it from the beginning with no mistakes. If you find that there is a place or two where you are a little "rusty" be sure to go over them until you can say the whole Psalm with no "stumbles" or "fumbles".

Psalm 91

1. He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High
will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.
2. I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress,
my God, in whom I trust."
3. Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare
and from the deadly pestilence.
 4. He will cover you with his feathers,
and under his wings you will find refuge;
his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.
 5. You will not fear the terror of night,
nor the arrow that flies by day,
 6. nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness,
nor the plague that destroys at midday.
 7. A thousand may fall at your side,
ten thousand at your right hand, but it shall not come near you.
8. You will only observe with your eyes
and see the punishment of the wicked.
9. If you make the Most High your dwelling—
even the Lord, who is my refuge—
 10. then no harm will befall you,
no disaster will come near your tent.
11. For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways;
 12. they will lift you up in their hands,
so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.
 13. You will tread upon the lion and the cobra;
you will trample the great lion and the serpent.
14. "Because he loves me," says the Lord, "I will rescue him;
I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name.
15. He will call upon me, and I will answer him;
I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him.
16. With long life will I satisfy him
and show him my salvation."

Congratulations!!!

YOU!!!

DID!!!

IT!!!