

Weekly Devotion

Lay Your Burdens Down!

Find rest in Jesus when dealing with the uncertainty of the future –
Devotion 2/3

Ps 121:7 The LORD will keep you from all harm—he will watch over your life; Ps 121:8 the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.

– *Psalm 121:7-8*

Dear friends and family of True North and St. John's,

Minneapolis is full of parks. Some of those parks have playgrounds. If you have ever taken a child to a playground, you know they can occupy hours upon hours climbing the equipment, digging in the sand/stones, going up and down a slide. When they are little they need some supervision. You're there to keep an eye on them. Most children will play as long as you let them. Yet for you - the one who is watching them - it may seem like a boring task. But you are there because of the uncertainties. What if they fall as they attempt swinging across the monkey bars? What if another child maliciously pushes them out of the way? What if they find someone else's French fries while digging in the sand/stones? What if a stranger convinces them to wander off? You're there as a first responder. You're there as someone to bring those children (or their parents) assurance that you are watching over them.

We're not on a Minneapolis playground. The dangers we face are far more worrisome than a spill off the monkey bars or a germ encrusted French fry. We are sinful people living in a sinful world where the devil has made his playground. The devil's only intent is to harm and destroy. The devil's plan is to take your life. He lays traps around every corner. Sometimes we fall into those traps. After we fall into those traps the devil then tries to create uncertainty. He whispers in our ears, "do you think God will forgive you after you have done that!" He hopes by planting that into your head that he can lead you to further despair and eventually to your destruction.

But we have one who has fought for us. We have one who watches over our life. That is our Lord God. He watches over us more diligently than even the best babysitter at a children's playground. He knows when we get up in the morning. He knows when we go to sleep at night. He watches us while we close our eyes and when we go about our day. When the devil tempts, he's there to provide a way out. When temptations are successful, he reminds us of how our sins have been paid for by his suffering and death. The Lord watches over your life! He watches over your coming and going!

As the School Year comes to a close, many of you get to go to different “playgrounds”. For some, it’s the summer routine. For others it’s something completely new as you graduate and say good bye to your college years. Regardless, of where you are headed, know that your Lord is going with you. He’s on guard to make sure the devil doesn’t snatch you away like a stranger of mal intent looking to steal a child. Jesus rescued us from him at the cross and tomb. He doesn’t want to lose you again. Take comfort in knowing Jesus is watching over you. The Lord’s blessings on your week!

In Christ,

Pastor Lindner

This devotion series is based upon Matthew 11:28-30 which says, ^{Mt 11:28} “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ^{Mt 11:29} Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ^{Mt 11:30} For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”– Matthew 11:28-30