

Dear Friends,

Here is this week's Pastoral Letter. I may have used this before however, I think it is a lesson worth repeating.

Have you ever sat and watched what's going on around you in nature? I can remember sitting watching the crested pigeons fly into my backyard and if the sprinkler was on, they would lie down on the grass with one wing up as the water sprayed gently over them, then they would roll over the other way and the same thing would happen, it was as if they were having a shower. This came at a time when I needed something to lift my spirits and it certainly did that.

Some years later, when sitting on my balcony I was watching the birds fly through the trees when suddenly, a kookaburra flew across with a noisy miner hot on its tail. It was chasing it away from its territory. It made me stop and reflect on the fact that there are many times we feel we're too small to make a change in the world or challenge the status quo.

There are many things happening in the world around us and we often feel we're too small or insignificant to make a difference. We pray for peace but then if we're not prepared to live peacefully with family, friends and neighbours then how can we live at peace in the community. The song that comes to mind is "Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me"

[Let There Be Peace On Earth | Rise Up Junior Choir - YouTube](#)

Just like the noisy miner it wasn't afraid to tackle a problem head on and we too can stand up and be counted. Just as the little bird had the strength, courage, and determination to face the obstacle head on, God cares for each one of us and gives us the strength and courage we need each day.

It is put beautifully in this Old Testament verse....

"But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength.

They will soar high on wings like eagles.

They will run and not grow weary.

They will walk and not faint."

Isaiah 40:31 New Living Translation (NLT)

[On Eagle's Wings - Michael Crawford - Bing video](#)

[God Is Our Strength And Refuge - Bing video](#)

God Is Our Strength and Refuge,
Our present help in trouble;
And we therefore will not fear,
Though the earth should change!
Though mountains shake and tremble,
Though swirling floods are raging:
God the Lord of Hosts is with us evermore!

There is a flowing river
Within God's holy city;
God is in the midst of her,
She shall not be moved!
God's help is swiftly given,
Thrones vanish at His presence;
God the Lord of Hosts is with us evermore!

Come, see the works of our Maker,
Learn of His deeds all-powerful:
Wars will cease across the world
When He shatters the spear!
Be still and know your Creator,
Uplift Him in the nations;
God the Lord of Hosts is with us evermore!

My prayer for all of us is, that we will be always aware of God's presence in the good and the bad times. We have a God whose love is all encompassing, who has promised to be with us and to lift us up on eagle's wings. He is indeed our Strength and our Refuge!! Amen

With love and prayers,

Lyn

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