

# The Power to Stand When the Lion Roars

Welcome to worship. We are delighted that you are here.

At some point, you will have to stand firm for Christ against some type of opposition, threat, ridicule or temptation. According to our passage, danger lurks in the lure of a seductive world and in the intimidation of a bullying world. How is it that we are enabled to stand?

From these last words of Paul, we learn that when our spirit is lonely, we need friends. When our body is cold, we need clothing. When our mind is bored, we need books. To admit this is not unspiritual; it is human. These are our natural needs. As Bishop Moule wisely says, man is 'never for one moment denaturalized by grace.'

- John Stott

**PRAYER OF PREPARATION \* 9:00 AM Service \* Gathered Worship**

Almighty God,  
whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ  
is the light of the world:  
Grant that your people,  
illuminated by your Word and Sacraments,  
may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory,  
that he may be known, worshiped, and obeyed  
to the ends of the earth;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.

**SONG FOR GATHERING . . . . .Our God**

Water You turned into wine  
Opened the eyes of the blind  
There's no one like you, none like

Into the darkness You shine  
Out of the ashes we rise  
There's no one like you, none like you!

*Chorus: Our God is greater, our God is stronger  
God You are higher than any other  
Our god is healer,  
awesome in power  
Our God, our God*

Into the darkness You shine  
Out of the ashes we rise  
There's no one like you, none like you! *Chorus*

Tag: And if our God is for us  
Then who could ever stop us  
And if our God is with us  
Then who could stand against  
And if our God is for us  
Then who could ever stop us  
And if our God is with us  
Then who could stand against  
Then who could stand against. *Repeat Chorus and Tag*

**CALL TO WORSHIP . . . . . Psalm 56:8-11**

You have taken account of my miseries;  
Put my tears in Your bottle.  
Are they not in Your book?  
Then my enemies will turn back on the day when I call;  
This I know, that God is for me.  
In God, whose word I praise,  
In the Lord, whose word I praise,  
In God I have put my trust, I shall not be afraid.  
What can mankind do to me?

**PRAYER OF ADORATION. . . . .**

**SONG OF PRAISE . . . . .Steadfast**

I will build my house, whether storm or drought  
On the rock that does not move.  
I will set my hope, in your love, O Lord  
And your faithfulness will prove.  
You are steadfast, steadfast.

By the word you spoke, all the starry host  
Are called out by name each night.  
In your watchful care, I will rest secure  
As you lead us with your light.  
You are steadfast, steadfast.  
You are steadfast, steadfast.

I will not trust in the strength of kings  
On your promise I will stand.  
I will shout for joy, I will raise my voice  
Hallelujah to the Lamb!  
You are steadfast, steadfast.  
You are steadfast, steadfast.

In the moment of emptiness, all was fulfilled.  
In the hour of darkness, your light was revealed.  
In the presence of death, your life was affirmed.  
In the absence of holiness, you are still God.  
[You are steadfast, steadfast.] Repeat 4X

**SONG OF ADORATION . . . . .Wonderful Merciful Savior**

Wonderful merciful Savior,  
Precious Redeemer and Friend  
Who would have thought that a Lamb could  
rescue the souls of men.  
Oh, You rescue the souls of men.

Counselor Comforter Keeper,  
Spirit we long to embrace  
You offer hope when our hearts have  
hopelessly lost the way.  
Oh, we hopelessly lost the way.

*Chorus: You are the One that we praise  
You are the One we adore  
You give the healing and grace  
Our hearts always hunger for.  
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.*

Almighty infinite Father,  
Faithfully loving Your own  
Here in our weakness You find us  
falling before Your throne.  
Oh, we're falling before Your throne. *Chorus*

**MORNING PRAYER OF CONFESSION & INTERCESSION. . . . .**

Heavenly Lord,  
Your name is a strong tower.  
The righteous run to it and are safe,  
for You are the only refuge in troubled times.  
Yet, we confess that our fears are legion.  
We are afraid to love, afraid to commit ourselves,  
afraid of what others think, afraid of rejection,  
afraid of being hurt, afraid of failure,  
and afraid of what the future might bring.  
Show us that Jesus Christ is Your protection of us,  
Your presence with us, and Your power in us.  
Forgive us for the glory of our Savior's name,  
Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS. . . . . 2 Timothy 1:9-10, 7**

This grace was given us in Christ Jesus  
before the beginning of time, but it has now been revealed  
through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus,  
who has destroyed death and has brought life  
and immortality to light through the gospel.  
For God has not given us a spirit of timidity,  
but of power and love and discipline.

**SONG OF ASSURANCE. . . . .Came to My Rescue**

Falling on my knees in worship  
Giving all I am to seek Your face  
Lord all I am is Yours

My whole life I place in Your hands  
God of mercy humbled I bow down  
In Your presence at Your throne

Chorus: I called, You answered  
And You came to my rescue  
And I wanna be where You are

My whole life I place in Your hands  
God of mercy, Oh Lord, I bow down  
In Your presence by Your throne (Chorus 2x)

In my life be lifted high  
In our world be lifted high  
In our love be lifted high (3X)

I called, You answered, and you came to my rescue  
and I wanna be where you are.

**GREETINGS/MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES. . . . .**

**SCRIPTURE MEMORY CHALLENGE. . . . . Philipians 4:6-7**

Be anxious for nothing,  
but in everything  
by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving  
let your requests be made known to God.  
And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension,  
will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

**EPISTLE LESSON. . . . . 2 Timothy 4:9-22**

**THE SERMON . . . . . The Power to Stand When the Lion Roars**

*#10 in our series on 2 Timothy: Finish Well*

1. Acknowledge your vulnerability.
2. Draw strength from your spiritual friends.
3. Trust the Lord and rest in His promises.

**COMMUNION. . . . .**

- The Lord’s Supper is the family meal of believers by which we recall Jesus’ cross, relive his anguish, and renew our vows to live as His followers.
- We invite all followers of Jesus Christ to participate who are baptized members of a gospel-proclaiming church, who are endeavoring to live at peace with God and others, and who seek grace and strength to live more faithfully for Jesus.
- If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and His gospel.

**HYMN FOR COMMUNION. . . . . Come Thou Fount**

Come, thou fount of every blessing,  
tune my heart to sing Thy grace  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing  
call for songs of loudest praise  
Teach me some melodious sonnet  
sung by flaming tongues above  
Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it  
Mount of Thy redeeming love

I was lost in utter darkness  
'til You came and rescued me  
I was bound by all my sin when  
Your love came and set me free  
Now my soul can sing a new song,  
now my heart has found a home  
Now Your grace is always with me  
And I'll never be alone

**BENEDICTION. . . . . 2 Timothy 4:18,22**

May the Lord rescue you from every evil deed  
and bring you safely into his heavenly kingdom.  
May the Lord be with your spirit, and grace be with you all! Amen.