**Wesley UMC Devotion for 5-24-25 Saturday**

**A Prayer of Protective Covering** By Kelly Balarie
“Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.” –  Psalm 91:1 NIV

The text message came in. My friend asked, “Kelly, can you pray a protective covering prayer over me?" I had no idea what a “Protective Covering Prayer” was, but I did understand she was in a risky situation. I knew she needed God’s help so no weapon formed against her could prosper.  I knew she needed a sister to pray for God’s immense protective power to keep her, to watch over her, and to guard her in all her ways. With all this circling through my head, not knowing how to meet her expectations, I turned to the Lord and sought the best scripture to pray. My heart landed on Psalm 91, a powerhouse Psalm. When prayed, it is mighty to work.

In my friend’s case, I didn’t have time to pray the whole Psalm over her, so I focused on Psalm 91:1:

“Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High
will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm%2091:1-2&version=NIV" \l "fen-NIV-15397a" \o "See footnote a)]

I prayed that my friend would draw into God Himself. I prayed that she would rest under His shelter, the ultimate protective covering for any storm. When I prayed, I hoped she would know that under God’s shelter, there is impenetrable safety. It is the mightiest forcefield around. It is greater than the Iron Dome. It is Stronger than the best iron-built fortress.

Sometimes, we may not feel like God’s shelter is safe, though. Just because we’re in His safety doesn’t mean we don’t see a natural war around us. We may see bullets flying. We may hear people speaking words against us. We may hear sounds of gunfire that fire all around us. We must not be discouraged about that. When we come into the shelter of the Most High, we exhale fear and trust Him to protect, even in the face of natural warfare.

We walk by faith and not by sight. We don’t have to see to believe. How many battles has God delivered you through? How many times has He fed you when you were hungry? How many instances has He answered prayers that you prayed years ago that, at that time, you thought were impossible? Come into the shelter of the Most High and know that you are safe, even if it feels you are not. He will keep you. In that space and place, you can finally rest that mind.

I receive this for myself. The truth is, sometimes, my heart feels faint. There’s a battle that seems to have no end. I asked the Lord this morning, “God, how do I actually protect my heart so it does not grow faint?” Although I didn’t hear the answer, I knew the response. If God were to audibly speak, it may sound something like this, “Kelly, you have to trust me, when you come into Me as a Shelter. A sign of you doing this – is you at rest.”

For some of us, our hearts need rest. God has that for you, too, as you believe in His protective covering over you. He will not fail you. He will not forsake you. He is Protector, and He is good at His job.

**Let’s Pray:**

Father, I ask for you to protect me. I ask You to keep me in all my ways. Give me power to dwell under your shelter, the shelter of the Most High, and to rest in the shadow of the Almighty. You are my safe refuge. You are my hope. You are my best protection. Keep me in all my ways. Thank you that you are the Shepherd and Keeper of my soul. I am so grateful. In Jesus’ Name. Amen.