

May the Lord Keep You Numbers 6:24b

שָׁמַר (sha.mar) 'to keep'

Meaning: to keep, guard, observe, give heed, have charge of, protect, save life

God has set Himself as our Keeper Numbers 6:24

"The Lord bless you, and keep you..."

- God as our Keeper in the Old Testament
Psalm 91:11 - *"For He will give His angels charge concerning you, to guard you in all your ways."*
Psalm 121:7 - *"The Lord will protect you from all evil; He will keep your soul."*
- God as our Keeper in the New Testament
John 17:11-12 - *"I am no longer in the world; and yet they themselves are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep them in Your name, the name which You have given Me, that they may be one even as We are. While I was with them, I was keeping them in Your name which You have given Me; and I guarded them and not one of them perished but the son of perdition, so that the Scripture would be fulfilled."*

"For it is He who delivers you from the snare of the trapper and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with His pinions, and under His wings you may seek refuge; His faithfulness is a shield and bulwark." Psalm 91:3-4

We need to run to God as our Keeper Matthew 23:37

*"Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, **and you were unwilling.**"*

"What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us." — A.W. Tozer

Do we feel KEPT by God or STUCK by God?

- We run to God for safety
Psalm 31:1-3 - *"In You, O Lord, I have taken refuge; let me never be ashamed; in Your righteousness deliver me. Incline Your ear to me, rescue me quickly; be to me a rock of strength, a stronghold to save me."*
- We run to God for intimacy
Deuteronomy 32:10 - *"In a desert land he found him, in a barren and howling waste. He shielded him and cared for him; he guarded him as the apple of his eye, like an eagle that stirs up its nest and hovers over its young, that spreads its wings to catch them and carries them aloft. The Lord alone led him; no foreign god was with him."*

Digging Deeper + LifeGroup Discussion:

Read through Psalm 121.

The Lord the Keeper of Israel. A Song of Ascents. Psalm 121

I will lift up my eyes to the mountains; From where shall my help come?
My help comes from the Lord, Who made heaven and earth.
He will not allow your foot to slip; He who keeps you will not slumber.
Behold, He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand.
The sun will not smite you by day, nor the moon by night.
The Lord will protect you from all evil; He will keep your soul.
The Lord will guard your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forever.

Are there unmistakable times in your life where you felt the keeping, guarding and protection of God? When?
Have there been times where you felt like God did not protect and keep you, or someone you know?
How has this impacted your journey of faith? How do you make sense of God during those times?
Is there a line from Psalm 121 above that you need to hold fast to and claim as a prayer for your life right now?

Next Steps:

JOIN A LIFEGROUP: LifeGroups are ongoing small group communities that gather together throughout the week to CONNECT in a smaller setting, GROW together in our faith, and REACH out together to our community. To get involved or for more information, contact Connections + LifeGroups Pastor, Robert Carter, at rcarter@calvarylife.org, or indicate "LifeGroups" on The Card (located in the chair rack in the seat in front of you). calvarylife.org/lifegroups

In Response:

THE FEATHER: Like a wedding ring worn on our fingers, sometimes we need visual reminders of commitments we make. Our faith journeys are no different. As a reminder of God's keeping promise to the people of Israel moving through the wilderness, you are invited to take the feather you received on the way in today and place it in your Bible at a passage significant to you, to remind you that God is our Keeper and we are called to run to Him.

COMMUNION: Communion is a "meal" for believers in Jesus Christ to help us give thanks and remember His death on the cross for the forgiveness of sins. The matzah bread represents the body of Christ given for us. The cup of juice represents the blood of Christ that was shed to pay the price for our sins. We are called to examine ourselves before taking communion (Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-34). We typically pass communion elements the first Sunday of the month. Most other weeks, communion is available at tables around the room after the sermon.

GIVING: The offering is received during each Sunday service. This is a way to express a wholehearted trust in God and worship Him through giving. It is also an act of obedience to God that helps free us from money having mastery over us. Tithing is a biblical command of 10% as a baseline of giving, but the New Testament calls us as followers of Jesus to give even more. Our prayer is that you plan ahead to give purposefully and joyfully to God, helping to further ministry locally and globally in Jesus' name. Discover ways to give on the front of the bulletin or calvarylife.org/give

PRAYER POINTS: These locations at the front right and left of the Worship Center will have people available to pray with you during the time of singing after the sermon and after the service as well. These people are excited to pray with you about anything in your life, including praying to tell Jesus that you believe in Him as God and trust Him for salvation. They will also pray for any health needs, stresses, worries, family members, temptations or anything else.

PRAYER ROOM: The Prayer Room is located at the front right of the Worship Center Auditorium through the doorway behind the Prayer Point. This is a quiet space that you can go to at anytime during the service to be able to pray and reflect on what God is doing in your heart.



CONNECT. GROW. REACH
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