

DAY 7

WELCOME

Matthew 10: 40

40 'Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.

Have you met new people on your journey? Have people welcomed you into their homes or lives? I love that if people welcome God's people it is like welcoming God into their house.

Pray a blessing for those who have shown you kindness.

Bless the people we have met today,
May their kindness continue,
May hope always be in their heart,
May they know love as they have shown love
May peace be always at their door.

LAST DAY

Psalm 18:31-33

31 For who is God except the Lord?

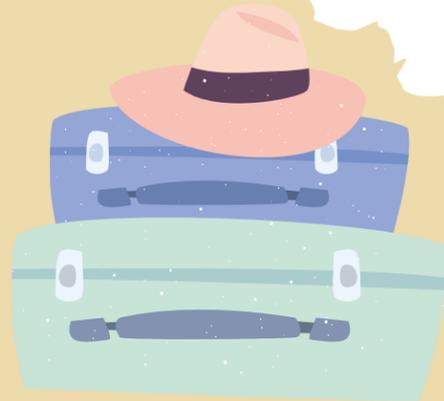
And who is a rock besides our God?—
32 the God who girded me with strength,
and made my way safe.

33 He made my feet like the feet of a deer,
and set me secure on the heights.

What has been the heights of your journey? What new things have you learnt? was there anything that took all your strength? What have you missed most about home?

You have guided our ways,
helped us live your sabbath,
rested and restored we return home.
May that which we have learnt, guide our ways
walking ever closer with you.

HOME



RECLAIMING SABBATH

WHY TRAVELLING PRAYERS?

Holidays have become the Western worlds seeking of Sabbath. That reconnecting to our whole self - that which is more than our daily lives. These reflections are for families to reconnect with each other and God. In the true sense of Sabbath taking time to remember, notice and connect with God.

SOURCES

The readings are from the NRSV, a number of the prayers are traditional Celtic prayers which I find a beautiful way of articulating some of our deeper things.

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TRAVELLING PRAYERS



MAY THE EVERLASTING FATHER
SHIELD YOU,
EAST AND WEST,
WHEREVER YOU GO.

PRAY



DAY 1

BEGININGS

Psalm 91:11

For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

As you begin your journey are there things that you are worried about? Is there particular protection you would like? Take a moment to hand them over to God.

May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face; the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

DAY 2

Isaiah 35:8

A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray.

It is interesting to see for Isaiah once on the Holy Way you can't stray from it. How have you seen the Holy way today?

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise, Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me.

DAY 3

Psalm 139

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

3 You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

4 Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.

5 You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

This reading goes on to say there is nowhere we hide from God's love. Do you feel like you are in a strange and hidden place? Does faith feel different to you here? God is here too. Be still for a moment and reflect on God's love for you.

DAY 4

Acts 9:6-8

But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.' 7 The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. 8 Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus.

On Paul's journey, surprising things happened. He learnt new things about himself and God. What have you learnt about God on your journey?

God open our eyes to see you anew, open our ears to hear your sweet words,
Open our mind to understand you more,
Open our hearts, to love as You do.

BREATHE

DAY 5

GRATEFUL

Luke 10:41-42

But the Lord answered her, 'Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; 42 there is need of only one thing.[1] Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.'

As we travel we can get distracted by all the things that need to be done and lose sight of the gifts of God around us. What did you notice today?

You've blessed me with friends and laughter and fun
With rain that's as soft as the light from the sun
You've blessed me with the stars to brighten each night
You've given me help to know wrong from right
You've given me so much, so please Lord give me too
A heart that is always Grateful to you.

DAY 6

Matthew 10:29 – 31

Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unperceived by your Father. 30 And even the hairs of your head are all counted. 31 So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

Sometimes when we travel things don't go according to plan. Sometimes that can be scary. It doesn't matter where we are or what happens we are not alone.

I arise today

Through the strength of heaven:

Light of sun, Radiance of moon, Splendour of fire, Speed of lightning, Swiftiness of wind, Depth of sea, Stability of earth, Firmness of rock.

God present in all we see, all we know,
be ever present today and always.

