



Depending on God? Look UP!

Dear Christian caregiver, the Lord is your treasure and strength in the storm of family care-giving. God may be using the storms of your care-giving days to show you His strength in your weakness, as you seek to deal with the overwhelming challenges. Because of your relationship with the Lord, dear Christian caregiver, you can approach God with confidence and freedom for help and strength as you face each new day.

I felt so inadequate for the task of being my husband's caregiver. It was not a role I would have chosen, and I certainly felt unprepared for that role. God, however, delights to use unlikely ordinary weak people to do His will. When you yield your limitations and even failures to the Lord, dear caregiver, you become a wonderful instrument in the Lord's hand. His strength and not your own will then fill you.

Also I know of no greater work in the kingdom of heaven than family care-giving. It is often a thankless job accompanied by grief and perhaps tears, as one sees one's loved one's health deteriorate. It is never a pointless role, however. For whatever is done for others is done for the Lord, and it will produce a harvest of blessings and joy in God's perfect timetable.

The family care-giving role is a role that often feels as if it is leading down blind alleys. Christian caregivers, however, can be assured that their Good Shepherd is leading and guiding them each step of the way. The Good Shepherd knows that you are very vulnerable, dear caregiver. Depend on Him for guidance and protection just as lambs follow their shepherd. As your Good Shepherd He will walk before you and lead you. He is your hope for today, as you face your care-giving challenges. He is also your hope and the hope of your loved one for the future!¹

Self-Pity is a slimy, bottomless pit. Once you fall in, you tend to go deeper and deeper into the mire. As you slide down those slippery walls, you are well on your way to depression, and the darkness is profound.

Your only hope is to look up and see the Light of My presence shining down on you. Though the Light looks dim from your perspective, deep in the pit, those rays of hope can reach you at any depth. While you focus on Me in trust, you rise ever so slowly out of the abyss of despair. Finally, you can reach up and grasp My hand. I will pull you out into the Light again. I will gently cleanse you, washing off the clinging mire. I will cover you with My righteousness and walk with you down the path of Life.²

¹ Sharon at [Christian Caregiving blogspot](#) *Devotionals for Caregivers*

² [Jesus calling](#) July 16th (book distributed to each caregiver family)

“My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God? My tears have been my food day and night, while men say to me all day long, ‘Where is your God?’” Ps. 42:2-3. “Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my savior and my God.” Ps. 42:5, 11, 43:5. “The Lord delights in those who fear him, who put their hope in his unfailing love.” Ps. 147:11

Do you feel inadequate in your caregiving?	Do you ever struggle with self-pity?	When does your soul feel downcast?

“The Lord is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made. The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down. The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time. You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. Ps. 145:13b-16.

“Jesus knows we must come apart and rest a while, or else we may just plain come apart.” Vance Havner

“Give me a stout heart to bear my own burdens. Give me a willing heart to bear the burdens of others. Give me a believing heart to cast all burdens upon You, O Lord.”
John Baillie