**Psalm 124**

**A song of ascents. Of David.**

L: If the Lord had not been on our side—  
    let Israel say—  
C: if the Lord had not been on our side  
    when people attacked us,  
L: they would have swallowed us alive  
    when their anger flared against us;  
C: the flood would have engulfed us,  
    the torrent would have swept over us,  
L: the raging waters  
    would have swept us away.

C: Praise be to the Lord,  
    who has not let us be torn by their teeth.  
L: We have escaped like a bird  
    from the fowler’s snare;  
the snare has been broken,  
    and we have escaped.  
C: Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
    the Maker of heaven and earth.

**Old Testament Reading - Job 38:1-11**

**The Lord Speaks**

**38**Then the Lord spoke to Job out of the storm. He said:

**2**“Who is this that obscures my plans  
    with words without knowledge?  
**3**Brace yourself like a man;  
    I will question you,  
    and you shall answer me.

**4**“Where were you when I laid the earth’s foundation?  
    Tell me, if you understand.  
**5**Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know!  
    Who stretched a measuring line across it?  
**6**On what were its footings set,  
    or who laid its cornerstone—  
**7**while the morning stars sang together  
    and all the angels[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=job+38&version=NIV#fen-NIV-13801a)] shouted for joy?

**8**“Who shut up the sea behind doors  
    when it burst forth from the womb,  
**9**when I made the clouds its garment  
    and wrapped it in thick darkness,  
**10**when I fixed limits for it  
    and set its doors and bars in place,  
**11**when I said, ‘This far you may come and no farther;  
    here is where your proud waves halt’?

**New Testament Reading - 2 Corinthians 6:1-13**

**6**As God’s co-workers we urge you not to receive God’s grace in vain. **2**For he says,

“In the time of my favor I heard you,  
    and in the day of salvation I helped you.”[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Corinthians+6&version=NIV#fen-NIV-28901a)]

I tell you, now is the time of God’s favor, now is the day of salvation.

**Paul’s Hardships**

**3**We put no stumbling block in anyone’s path, so that our ministry will not be discredited. **4**Rather, as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: in great endurance; in troubles, hardships and distresses; **5**in beatings, imprisonments and riots; in hard work, sleepless nights and hunger; **6**in purity, understanding, patience and kindness; in the Holy Spirit and in sincere love; **7**in truthful speech and in the power of God; with weapons of righteousness in the right hand and in the left; **8**through glory and dishonor, bad report and good report; genuine, yet regarded as impostors; **9**known, yet regarded as unknown; dying, and yet we live on; beaten, and yet not killed; **10**sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; poor, yet making many rich; having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

**11**We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians, and opened wide our hearts to you. **12**We are not withholding our affection from you, but you are withholding yours from us. **13**As a fair exchange—I speak as to my children—open wide your hearts also.

**Gospel Reading – Mark 4:35-41**

**Jesus Calms the Storm**

**35**That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, “Let us go over to the other side.” **36**Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. **37**A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. **38**Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, “Teacher, don’t you care if we drown?”

**39**He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, “Quiet! Be still!” Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.

**40**He said to his disciples, “Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?”

**41**They were terrified and asked each other, “Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!”