**Psalm 71:1-6**

**1**In you, Lord, I have taken refuge;  
    let me never be put to shame.  
**2**In your righteousness, rescue me and deliver me;  
    turn your ear to me and save me.  
**3**Be my rock of refuge,  
    to which I can always go;  
give the command to save me,  
    for you are my rock and my fortress.  
**4**Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked,  
    from the grasp of those who are evil and cruel.

**5**For you have been my hope, Sovereign Lord,  
    my confidence since my youth.  
**6**From birth I have relied on you;  
    you brought me forth from my mother’s womb.  
    I will ever praise you.

**Old Testament Reading – Jeremiah 1:4-10**

**The Call of Jeremiah**

**4**The word of the Lord came to me, saying,

**5**“Before I formed you in the womb I knew[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=jeremiah+1&version=NIV#fen-NIV-18952a)] you,  
    before you were born I set you apart;  
    I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

**6**“Alas, Sovereign Lord,” I said, “I do not know how to speak; I am too young.”

**7**But the Lord said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am too young.’ You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. **8**Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,” declares the Lord.

**9**Then the Lord reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, “I have put my words in your mouth. **10**See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant.”

**Epistle Reading - 1 Corinthians 12:31 – 13:13**

**31**Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.

**13**If I speak in the tongues[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+13&version=NIV#fen-NIV-28667a)] of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. **2**If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. **3**If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast,[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+13&version=NIV#fen-NIV-28669b)] but do not have love, I gain nothing.

**4**Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. **5**It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. **6**Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. **7**It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

**8**Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. **9**For we know in part and we prophesy in part, **10**but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. **11**When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. **12**For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

**13**And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

**Gospel Reading - Luke 4:31 – 44**

**Jesus Drives Out an Impure Spirit**

**31**Then he went down to Capernaum, a town in Galilee, and on the Sabbath he taught the people. **32**They were amazed at his teaching, because his words had authority.

**33**In the synagogue there was a man possessed by a demon, an impure spirit. He cried out at the top of his voice, **34**“Go away! What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!”

**35**“Be quiet!” Jesus said sternly. “Come out of him!” Then the demon threw the man down before them all and came out without injuring him.

**36**All the people were amazed and said to each other, “What words these are! With authority and power he gives orders to impure spirits and they come out!” **37**And the news about him spread throughout the surrounding area.

**Jesus Heals Many**

**38**Jesus left the synagogue and went to the home of Simon. Now Simon’s mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked Jesus to help her. **39**So he bent over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. She got up at once and began to wait on them.

**40**At sunset, the people brought to Jesus all who had various kinds of sickness, and laying his hands on each one, he healed them. **41**Moreover, demons came out of many people, shouting, “You are the Son of God!” But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew he was the Messiah.

**42**At daybreak, Jesus went out to a solitary place. The people were looking for him and when they came to where he was, they tried to keep him from leaving them. **43**But he said, “I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent.” **44**And he kept on preaching in the synagogues of Judea.