

HEAR ME
When I Call



J.K. STEWART

Hear Me When I Call

J.K. Stewart

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Introduction

Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have relieved me in my distress; have mercy on me, and hear my prayer. — Psalm 4:1

“Well, it’s cancer.” The doctor’s voice was kind, filled with compassion.

I didn’t dare look at my husband lest I lose my composure. “What stage is it?”

“We won’t know until after surgery. Do you have a surgeon?”

I nodded. A friend in the medical profession had recommended one.

After the doctor left the room, the nurse spent the next thirty minutes scheduling a breast MRI and conversing with the surgeon’s office.

When both appointments were set, my husband and I said our goodbyes and walked to the car. The tears I’d been holding back spilled down my cheeks.

Cancer. I have cancer. What now?

Do you have a similar story? If so, this book is for you. Each prayer is based on a passage from the Psalms and is designed to aid you in conversing with God through your cancer journey.

But please note. Scripture is clear that no one comes to the Father but through Jesus Christ (John 14:6). Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins so we can have access to God. Without Jesus, no one can approach the holy God.

Do you know Jesus? If not, I invite you to pray with me.

Lord, I’m a sinner in need of Your saving grace. Please forgive me, wash me clean, and be my Savior. In Your name I pray, amen.

I Cry Out to You

I cried out to God with my voice—to God with my voice; and He gave ear to me. — Psalm 77:1

Oh, Lord, I have cancer. How can this be? I'm at a loss for words. What do I tell my loved ones? How will this affect my future and theirs? I cry to you, my Father. To You alone, and You will hear me. Thank You for attending to my prayer. In Jesus' name, amen.

I Seek You

In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord; my hand was stretched out in the night without ceasing; my soul refused to be comforted. — Psalm 77:2

Dear God, my day of trouble is here. I seek You, yes, I seek You in the night. My hand reaches for You, for You alone are my Refuge and Help. Come to my aid, Lord Jesus, for my soul refuses comfort. Only You can bring me peace in the midst of my fear. In Your name I pray, amen.

Help Me

I remembered God, and was troubled; I complained, and my spirit was overwhelmed. You hold my eyelids open; I am so troubled that I cannot speak. — Psalm 77:3–4

Father, when I remember You, I moan. When I think upon You, my spirit faints. My eyes refuse to close, and I'm so troubled I cannot speak. Help me, God, help me. I'm weary from my groaning, and my tears won't cease. I need You, God, oh, how I need You. Hear me when I call, and answer my pleas. I pray in Your Son's name, amen.

Hear My Prayer

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob! — Psalm 84:8

Oh, Lord God of the heavens and the earth. Hear my prayer, and give ear to the requests of my heart. I'm restless with worry, and my tears are too numerous to count. Turn to me, Lord, and shine Your face upon me. When I'm afraid, lead me to the Rock that is Higher than I. In Christ's name, amen.

Answer Me When I Call

Bow down Your ear, O Lord, hear me; for I am poor and needy. — Psalm 86:1

God, I'm poor and needy. Incline Your ear, and answer me when I call. Hear my prayers and supplications, and lend Your favor to me. Fear and worry are constant companions, dread and doubt too. But Your faithfulness reaches the clouds, Your goodness the heavens. I choose to trust You, Lord. Yes, I choose to trust in You. I thank You in Jesus' name, amen.

I Cry to You All Day Long

Be merciful to me, O Lord, for I cry to You all day long. — Psalm 86:3

Lord, be gracious to me, for I cry to You all the day. My tears are many, my troubles plenty. Help me, Father, for I'm overwhelmed. Burdened. Downcast. Be my Shelter, my Stronghold and Fortress too. I need You, Lord. Oh, how I need You. In Jesus' name, amen.

Give Ear to Me

Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer; and attend to the voice of my supplications. — Psalm 86:6

Heavenly Father, give ear to me. Heed my prayer for grace. My world is turned upside down and is spinning out of control. I don't know what to do, I don't know what to say. But You, oh God, are my Hiding Place, my Song of Deliverance, my Refuge in the midst of my raging storm. I thank You in Your Son's name, amen.

I Call Upon You

In the day of my trouble I will call upon You, for You will answer me. — Psalm 86:7

Lord God, my day of trouble is here. I call upon You, for You hear and answer me. Lord, I have decisions to make, important ones concerning my future. Lead me and guide me in the way

I should go. Direct me and give me wisdom to make the right choices in my time of need. I pray this in Christ's name, amen.

Hear Me When I Call

But You, O Lord, are a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering and abundant in mercy and truth. — Psalm 86:15

Dear God, You are merciful. Gracious. Slow to anger and abundant in love and faithfulness. I come before You in praise and adoration. I thank You for Your goodness, compassion, and love. Hear me when I call, dear Father. Deliver me from the tempest, the ravaging storm that seeks to pull me under. In Jesus' name, amen.

I'm in Great Need

O Lord, God of my salvation, I have cried out day and night before You. — Psalm 88:1

Oh Lord, I cry out to You day and night. My world is turned upside down, and I'm filled with fear. Oh, peace, where have you fled? Are you only a distant memory? Hear my prayer, God of my Salvation, and dry my tears. Help me, for I'm in great need. In Christ's name, amen.

Let My Prayer Come Before You

Let my prayer come before You; incline Your ear to my cry. — Psalm 88:2

Dear God, incline Your ear to me, and hear my cry. Let my prayer come before You, for I'm anxious, fearful, worried. Father, hear the utterances of my lips, my voice that cries out in the desert. Where are You, God, where are You? Please don't leave me nor forsake me. I ask this in Jesus' name, amen.

You Lift Me Up

*But to You I have cried out, O Lord, and in the morning my prayer comes before You.
— Psalm 88:13*

Lord, in the morning, I come before You. I cry out, for my heart is heavy and burdened with cares. How long, Lord? How long must I suffer in silence? But You hear me and answer me. In the midst of my valley, You lift me up and deliver me. In Your Son's name I pray, amen.

I Will Sing

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever; with my mouth will I make known Your faithfulness to all generations. — Psalm 89:1

God, I will sing of Your mercies forever, and with my mouth, I will make known Your faithfulness to all generations. You have delivered me from the tempest, from the ravaging beast that sought to destroy me. You are good, full of compassion, mercy, and grace. I praise You in Jesus' name, amen.

Appendix I

My Story

Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name! — Psalm 103:1

Over ten years ago, God impressed upon my heart to pray for those with cancer. When I heard of someone diagnosed with the dreaded disease, I added them to my prayer list. I prayed them through surgeries. I prayed them through scans. I prayed them through treatment. Cancer was something other people got, not me.

But on July 31, 2012, I was told I had cancer. The solid mass in my right breast was a tumor. The hope the growth was something else was crushed. Stomped on. Shattered to smithereens. I. Had. Cancer.

Two weeks later, I had a lumpectomy and the removal of eighteen lymph nodes. One lymph node had cancer, which meant I needed chemotherapy. So a month after surgery, I began treatment. Then I threw up for three days.

Lord, I can't do this.

But I did. By God's grace, I endured sixteen chemotherapy treatments and thirty-seven daily zaps of radiation.

My life is not the same.

As I write, I'm nearly four years past diagnosis. And I'm cancer-free. I don't take my health for granted. God may allow me to go through cancer again. I pray not. But He might. Whatever His plan, I'm in the palm of His hand. Nothing can touch me He doesn't allow. Cancer included. All praise, honor, and glory to Him.

Bless the Lord, O my soul. And all that is within me, bless His holy name. Thank You, Jesus.

Appendix II

The Ticket to Heaven

“Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able.” — Luke 13:24

I don't fly a lot. Maybe two or three times a year. I travel light, so I rarely check baggage. Instead, I pack one carry-on small enough to fit into the overhead compartment.

When I arrive at the airport, I'm ready to go. Since I print my boarding pass at home, I immediately stand in line to go through security. The line inches forward until I reach the checkpoint. There, the TSA officer reaches for my boarding pass and ID. If I fail to have the correct documents, I'm turned away. I can't send my carry-on through security. I can't enter through the narrow gate.

This is likened to what Jesus says about entering heaven. “Strive to enter through the narrow gate” (Luke 13:24). Like the requirements at the airport, we each need a boarding pass. If we don't have one, we're turned away.

What boarding pass do we need? What is our ticket to heaven?

Jesus.

God sent His only Son, Jesus, to pay the price for everything we've done wrong. “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). We've all sinned. We've all fallen short. But God provided the remedy. Jesus. Jesus paid for your sin and mine.

How? How did He pay the price?

He was beaten, pierced, and hung on the cross. He died a painful death so you and I don't have to suffer for all eternity.

Is there more than one way to heaven?

No.

Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Him (John 14:6).

Do you have your boarding pass? Do you have your ticket to heaven?

If not, pray with me.

Lord, I'm a sinner in need of forgiveness. I ask You to forgive me. I ask You to wash me clean. Jesus, come into my life. Please be my Savior. Please be my ticket to heaven. In Your name, amen.

Thank you for reading *Hear Me When I Call*. If you found the prayers helpful, will you please take a moment to leave a review?

About the Author

On July 31, 2012, **J.K. Stewart** heard the three words no one wants to hear: “Well, it’s cancer.” After her first chemotherapy treatment, she sensed God’s call to cancer ministry. Within six months, she started a women’s cancer support group. Two years later, she launched *Hope for the Valley*, a website of daily devotions and prayers for women with cancer. J.K. lives in Texas with her husband, dog, and four cats.

Want more devotions and prayers? Want to contact the author? Connect with J.K.

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Also by J.K. Stewart

In the Midst of the Valley

Hope for Your Cancer Journey

**SOLID MASS. BIOPSY.
CANCER.**

Perhaps you’ve heard these words or love someone who has.

In the Midst of the Valley offers hope from the Scriptures and prayers from the heart of someone who’s been there. Each of the ninety readings points to the One who brings peace, comfort, and strength. The One who is bigger than cancer. The One who will walk you through your deepest valley.

Find hope for you cancer journey. The hope found in Christ.

[Available on Amazon](#) and [Hope for the Valley](#)

Pour Out Your Heart

Conversing with God through Your Illness

“I DON’T KNOW HOW TO PRAY.”

If you’re facing illness, you may struggle with how to pray. Although you have the desire, the words may escape you.

Pour Out Your Heart offers ninety prayers from the heart of someone who’s been there. Each prayer is based on a passage from the Psalms and is designed to aid you in conversing with God through your illness.

Pour out your heart to the One who offers hope, strength, and healing. The One who is bigger than your illness. The One who will walk you through your darkest night.

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When You Pass through the Waters

Experiencing God’s Presence through Chemotherapy

“I will be with you.”

When you pass through the waters, when you walk through the fire, God will be with you. He will not fail you, nor will He forsake you. He will not lead you astray, nor will He let you go. *He will be with you.*

When You Pass through the Waters offers thirty readings to assist you in experiencing God’s presence through chemotherapy. Each reading points to the One who is with you no matter what you’re facing, no matter how difficult or impossible your situation may be.

Experience God’s faithful and abiding presence when you pass through the waters and when you walk through the fire.

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