

Psalm 124. With Jesus there is always a 'way out'. With Jesus in our 'heart' freedom even in the midst of difficulties is possible not necessarily freedom 'from' but freedom to endure patiently knowing that Jesus is Lord.

Psalm 124:1-8

A song for pilgrims ascending to Jerusalem.

What if the Lord had not been on our side?

Let all Israel repeat:

What if the Lord had not been on our side
when people attacked us?

They would have swallowed us alive in their burning anger.

The waters would have engulfed us;

a torrent would have overwhelmed us.

Yes, the raging waters of their fury

would have overwhelmed our very lives.

Praise the Lord, who did not let their teeth tear us apart!

We escaped like a bird from a hunter's trap.

The trap is broken, and we are free!

Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

If I make a bird trap from a string and a stick and a box
how would I do it?

What could be problems??

Consider Scissors, Snags and Sounds..... *(Hold up a card for each..... being careful to write on the inside of the folded card the word God*)

Might God be in these things saving the bird or us if we were in a trap? Yesand maybe no.....

But even if the box fell and trapped us might God be there?? Pull the string and see the box fall..... then ask the kids to look in the box was God there??? *(Have the name God - taped to the inside of the box also a few other places like under a chair ... or two!)*

How do we know that God is on our side??

How do you know God is with you??

We can have lots of different answers.....

We could answer by

By our Success??

Matthew 8:34-37, John 15:18-20, Luke 12:22-31

(Worldly success or health do not seem very good indicators that God is with us)

'Hence we might do better to look where

By our character??

John 15:7-11, Galatians 5:22-23, Matthew 10:25-28

By our peace or calm??

Phil.4:4-7, John 14:25-27

By confidence in His Promise?

Matthew 28:20, Luke 23:24, John 14:1-3, 2 Tim.1:8-10

By a longer measure of time?

Phil. 2:8-11, Romans 8:31-39, 2 Peter 3:8-9, Hebrews 11

.....God is with us because God was with us!