



*The Rock is a Youth  
Ministry of Ascension  
Lutheran Church*

## **Need some Powerade?**

***Based on Psalm 27:1-6***

<b>Michael:</b>	<b>Father</b>
<b>Allee:</b>	<b>Mother</b>
<b>Matthew:</b>	<b>Matthew (Soccer fanatic)</b>
<b>Zach:</b>	<b>Zach (Baseball fanatic)</b>
<b>Haley:</b>	<b>Haley (Fishing fanatic)</b>
<b>Annee:</b>	<b>Annee (Softball fanatic)</b>
<b>Ryan:</b>	<b>Ryan (Cross Country fanatic)</b>

**Setting:** *Family gathers for dinner on a hot summer evening.*

**Dad:** Honey, I'm home! What's for dinner?

**Mom:** Oh, it will be a while. I was at the church all day preparing for VBS.

**Dad:** Hmm. VBS. Say, that wouldn't be the "High Seas Expedition" Vacation Bible School program at Ascension Lutheran Church?

**Mom:** The one beginning Sunday evening, June 27th at 5:30 p.m. and running every evening 5:30-8:00 p.m. through Thursday, July 1st?

**Dad:** Yeah, and packed with new friends, amazing crafts, wild games, lip-smacking snacks...

**Mom:** Swashbuckling Bible adventures, and incredible music?

**Dad:** Yeah?

***June 27, 2010***

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- Mom: No...it wouldn't be that one. *(Pause.)* So anyway, I put a casserole in the oven, but it'll be another 30 minutes 'til dinner's ready...
- Matt: *(Entering, holding a funnel.)* Did someone say dinner's ready? I'm starving.
- Dad: No, it's VBS preparation time. Dinner will be a little late. Matt, what are you doing with my oil funnel. I was looking all over for that...
- Matt: This? *(Holds up funnel.)* Oh, I'm making my own modified Vuvuzela to play in the praise band at church. It was Eric's idea!
- Dad: Voo-doo-what?
- Matt: Dad! What planet are you from? Don't you even know what a Vuvuzela is?
- Mom: Oh, I know. They are those awful horns they blow at the World Cup soccer games.
- Dad: Oh yeah! You know I fiddled with the TV for 20 minutes the other day trying to figure out what was causing that annoying static.
- Matt: Did you hear how the game turned out today?
- Dad: Yeah, Carpenter went a full nine, and the Cards still lost. You know, you'd think if your pitcher throws a 4-hitter, you'd win the game, right?
- Matt: No, not the baseball game! The US Soccer team!
- Mom: Oh yeah, they played for what seemed like all afternoon, and lost 2-1.
- Dad: Sounds riveting, like the time we went to your nephew's poetry reading event, Marge.
- Mom: Now, Ed, it wasn't that bad...
- Dad: The soccer game or the poetry reading? You know

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there were 385 ceiling joists in that auditorium...

Mom: You counted them?

Dad: It's all I could do to stay awake.

Mom: I can't believe it! I'm married to Rainman!

Dad: Ten minutes to Wopner...definitely...ten minutes to Wopner.

Matt: Hey, anybody got some Powerade? I'm dying of thirst.

Dad: Did you finish mowing the yard?

Matt: Yeah, and I'm totally drained. What is it: 90 degrees with 90 percent humidity today? Where's the Powerade? *(Grabs a bottle.)*

Zach: *(Enters.)* Someone say Powerade? I'm exhausted. *(Grabs a bottle.)*

Mom: Hot out there, honey? How was baseball practice?

Zach: I rode my bike 8 miles to practice at North River Valley. Then I realized it was out at the complex, so I rode 4 more miles to the complex, and then the coach made me run 7 laps.

Mom: Seven laps?

Zach: One for every minute I was late.

Dad: Say, anyone seen the girls?

Mom: Oh, Haley went fishing at Ada Hayden this afternoon, and Annee had a softball double header. They should be...

Haley: *(Enters with Annee.)* Parched...I'm parched...I'm totally, completely parched. Hey, Powerade! *(Grabs a bottle.)*

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- Zach: You're parched? You're parched? You were fishing! In the shade. You wouldn't know "parched" if it jumped out of the lake and bit you!
- Annee: Yeah, I'm the one that needs some Powerade. *(Grabs a bottle.)* Why, you haven't been breathing diamond dust from the softball field all afternoon. You were relaxing under a shade tree with a line tethered to your toe.
- Haley: What do you mean? Fishing is exhausting. Sitting out there, baiting the hook, casting the line, watching the line, reeling it in...
- Annee: Cursing the fish that stole the bait.
- Haley: Battling those huge fish...
- Annee: Bluegills?
- Haley: *(Frowns at Annee.)* Fighting to...
- Annee: Fighting to stay awake. *(Smiles at Haley.)*
- Ryan: *(Enters).* Make way for a true athlete. Cinderella boy, Ryan "The Beast", just places first in the Olympics Decathlon. *(Impersonating an interviewer.)* "Say, tell me Ryan, you just finished first in the Olympics Decathlon. What are you gonna' do?" "I'm gonna' get me some Powerade and go to VBS!" *(Grabs a bottle of Powerade.)*
- Mom: Okay, "The Beast", where have you been?
- Ryan: Merely on a routine ten-mile run.
- Mom: Ten miles? I thought you were trying to do three miles a day.
- Ryan: Well, I generally round it up to the nearest ten. I hate odd numbers.
- Dad: Well, since everyone's here, and dinner won't be ready for a while, we may as well do our devotions

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now. (*Opens Bible.*) Today we're reading from Psalm 27. Ryan, please read for us.

Ryan: (*Reading.*) "The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

Matt: I'm afraid the US will never win a world cup.

Annee: I'm afraid we're going to be killed when we play Valley.

Ryan: I'm afraid I'll never make the cross country team in the fall.

Mom: I'm afraid...I'm burning the casserole. I'll be right back. (*Jumps up to check things and returns.*)

Dad: No, no. I think the point of this verse isn't that we need to be afraid of something. I think it's that if the Lord is our savior and power source—our Power-Aid (*holds up bottle*)--we don't have anything to fear.

Zach: Dad, you haven't seen the kids from Valley. They're Amazons. (*Annee nods.*)

Dad: Continue, Ryan.

Ryan: (*Reading.*) "When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall. Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident."

Mom: You know, I was talking with a friend just the other day, and she is so worried about what the future holds.

Annee: Hmm, she must have Valley on her schedule too.

Dad: You know, even Christians sometimes get positively loopy about the condition of things.

Mom: The wars, the oils spill, the environment, the

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economy, the culture, the young people today (*all look at each other, pause, and smile*)...

Dad: But I think this Psalm is reminding us that although we don't really know what the future has in store, we DO KNOW who holds the future. We have the ultimate power source, the ultimate power-aid (*holds up bottle.*)

Haley: The God of our salvation, the one who saves us and lights our way, because he CAN see the future.

Matt: And the God who is our strength and stronghold—the one who protects us from all that life brings.

Annee: You know, I was thinking how interesting it is that God has made us so we can remember and learn from our past, and live and act in the present, but he has intentionally kept us from knowing the future.

Mom: You're right, and he certainly could have given us the ability to see the future. Had he wanted us to be able to see into the future, he could have made that as natural as living and breathing.

Dad: But I have a hunch he knew—in the words of Jack Nicholson--"we couldn't handle the future." Rather, this Psalm keeps bringing us back to focus on the Lord and seek him. That focus is sufficient for all our fears. The emphasis isn't on the fears, but on the Lord. Read more, Ryan.

Ryan: (*Reading.*) "One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple."

Dad: Dwell in Him, gaze on Him, inquire in Him.

Zach: It's kind of like all of us asking for Powerade when we came in. We all know we need something to quench our thirst, and we talk about it, and it's right there, but we still need to open the bottle and drink it in.

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Mom: So rather than worry about things all the time, all we really need to do is go into the presence of the Lord—which is what the Temple or “House of the Lord” in the old testament represented—and focus on him, and he will quench the thirst of our souls for safety, shelter, peace, and solitude.

Ryan: *(Reading.)* “For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock. And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD.”

Dad: Taste and see that the Lord is Good. Cheers?

All: Cheers! *(They all drink from their bottles of Powerade.)*