



Shelter

shel·ter | \ 'shel-tər

a position or the state of being covered and protected

“For those alive in the Kingdom of God, the world we live in is a perfectly safe place to be.” Dallas Willard

“Shelter” was adopted by me as my word for the year in January of 2020. I noticed “shelter” in scripture as well as words like “hiding place, spacious place, refuge and home.” “I couldn’t have known in January what the word “shelter” would come to mean. I have experienced the shelter of confession, of belonging and of freedom. More recently I experienced “shelter in place”.

When we approach a God who loves us and see Him with arms that are “wrap-around” arms, we find shelter. We can step in with confidence knowing His kindness. Praise is also a shelter, as is gratitude. On the journey of life, there is always a shelter near that is big enough to hide us, embrace us and rescue us. In the 33 scriptures in TPT, we are told that we can have shelter from the enemy and his ways, from storms and troubles, from false accusations and being overwhelmed.

We knew the word shelter long before “shelter in place” was a phrase we heard every day. If shelter is “being covered and protected”, then sheltering in place is “being covered and protected in our most familiar space.” (TV)

*What a God you are! Your path for me has been perfect!
All your promises have proven true. What a secure **shelter**
for all those who turn to hide themselves in you! You are
the wrap-around God giving grace to me.
Psalm 18:30*

What scriptures have been a shelter to you?

What other practices have provided shelter (being covered and protected)

- ___gratitude
- ___creative connections
- ___savoring
- ___praise
- ___confession
- ___

How is God providing a place of covering and protection for you in your current circumstances?

How does having shelter give you courage?

How has God revealed Himself in new ways as you know shelter?

Deep Places

I ran to the deep place where nobody goes and found Him waiting there.

“Where have you been?” He asked me.

“I’ve been in the shallow places where everyone lives,” I replied. I knew He knew. He just wanted me to admit I’d been too busy being busy.

“I’m running out...” I began.

“Of course,” He said. “I haven’t seen you in a while.”

He sat down on the steps of my soul in the Deep Place where nobody goes and smiled at me. Angels sang; a shaft of light chased away the shadows and brightened my daily day. I smiled back.

“I’m such a fool...”

“Shhh,” He said, putting His finger on my lips. He touched my hurried heart. Startled, it took a deep breath and skidded to a near stop. My spirit nestled in to nearness in the Deep Place where nobody goes.

My soul spoke, then: He answered with words beyond music. Where on earth had I been while heaven waited? Such grace!

Jill Briscoe

*[Safe and Secure] When you sit enthroned under the shadow of Shaddai, you are hidden in the strength of God Most High. He’s the hope that holds me and the Stronghold to **shelter** me, the only God for me, and my great confidence. He will rescue you from every hidden trap of the enemy, and he will protect you from false accusation and any deadly curse. ... Psalm 91*

*Protect me from harm; keep an eye on me like you would a child reflected in the twinkling of your eye. Yes, hide me within the **shelter** of your embrace, under your outstretched wings. Psalm 17:8*

*In his **shelter** in the day of trouble, that’s where you’ll find me, for he hides me there in his holiness. He has smuggled me into his secret place, where I’m kept safe and secure— out of reach from all my enemies. Triumphant now, I’ll bring him my offerings of praise, singing and shouting with ecstatic joy! Yes, listen and you can hear the fanfare of my shouts of praise to the Lord! Psalm 27:5-6*