

Devotions For May 1, 2021

“When I am in distress I call to you because you answer me.” Psalm 86:7

Today is May 1, 2021. Mayday!

The international distress signal “Mayday” is always repeated three times in a row—“Mayday-Mayday-Mayday”—so the situation will be clearly understood as a life-threatening emergency. The word was created in 1923 by Frederick Stanley Mockford, a senior radio officer at London’s Croydon Airport. That now-closed facility once had many flights to and from Le Bourget Airport in Paris. According to the National Maritime Museum, Mockford coined Mayday from the French word *m’aidez*, which means, “help me.”

Throughout King David’s life, he faced life-threatening situations for which there seemed to be no way out. Yet, we read in Psalm 86 that during his darkest hours, David’s confidence was in the Lord. “Hear my prayer, Lord; listen to my cry for mercy. When I am in distress, I call to you, because you answer me” (Psalm 86:6–7).

King David saw beyond the immediate danger by asking God to lead his steps: “Teach me your way, Lord, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name” (Psalm 86:11). When the crisis was past, he wanted to keep walking with God.

Thought For Today: The most difficult situations we face can become doorways to a deeper relationship with our Lord. This begins when we call on God to help us in our trouble, and also to lead us each day in His way.

Today’s Prayer Focus: Are you or anyone you know going through a time of stress or distress? Take time now to pray for them and that God will hear and answer your prayer. Continue to pray this week’s prayer fuel. Deo Volente.