

The Wind Blows
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Our junior high youth group recently played a game called "The Wind Blows." If you've never played, it's essentially a more chaotic version of Musical Chairs. Everyone sits in a circle, with one person standing in the middle. The person in the center announces, "The wind blows for..." and fills in the blank with a description, like "*anyone wearing glasses.*" Instantly, everyone with glasses has to scramble to find a new chair before the person in the middle steals one.

Watching the kids play, I loved seeing their imagination run wild as they came up with different endings to the phrase. But as I reflected on it later, the imagery hit a little closer to home than I expected.

In ministry, it often feels like the wind is blowing exclusively for us.

Maybe it's an impossibly long day, a sudden crisis, or a painful interaction that leaves you feeling exposed and targeted. In those moments, you find yourself frantically looking for an empty chair—a safe spot to slip into just to catch your breath. But in the relentless pace of church work, that empty chair can be incredibly hard to find.

When the wind keeps blowing and there's nowhere to sit down, it is easy to slip into self-pity. We feel tossed around by circumstances completely out of our control, exhausted from trying to keep everyone else spiritually fed while we run on empty. Have you been there lately?

When the whirlwind of ministry threatens to knock us off our feet, we can anchor ourselves in the truth of Psalm 91:1-2: "Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, 'He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.'"

You might feel like you are standing directly in the eye of a hurricane today. But Scripture reminds us that we don't have to scramble for a temporary, earthly chair to find safety. We already have an eternal refuge. God is a safe harbor where we can ride out the storm of the day. When we dwell in Him, we don't have to rely on our own strength to stay standing. We can rest under the shadow of His protection. The wind may blow today, but your Fortress will not move.

Prayer:

Lord, as I face the headwinds of ministry today, remind me that I do not weather this storm alone. Forgive me for the times I focus on the chaos or slide into self-pity. Shift my gaze away from the challenges and lift my eyes back to You. Thank You for being my strength, my power, and my quiet safe harbor. I trust in You, my refuge and my fortress.