Enjoying God as My Reassurance and What Soothes Me

I delight that the reassurance I need, is...

...not from how well I exalt myself. The closeness of God’s love and power are far more soothing. I love exalting God...

...not from soothing myself with the sin of___________________. God’s presence is readily available to me by His grace...

...not from sources that dishonor the Lord. It is a far greater glory to love the closeness of God’s power...

...not in the power and control there is in doing what is bad for me. It is more soothing to find reassurance in God...

...not the power and control there is in rebellion. It is far more filling to thrill myself with the closeness of God’s power...

...not in the power and control there is in holding back from relationship with God. Lord, it is You that I love...

...not from _______________________________. God is better. Lord, it is You that I love. I turn to You...

...not from how well I get people to believe lies. I love the truth more...

(And then this...)

...I turn my soul away from earthly ways of soothing myself—I repent of little “gods.” Lord, Your radiance soothes me when I hurt. I love Your grace to draw near me without my having to deserve it...

(And then one of these...) I delight that I can, “...repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord” (Acts 3:19).

God doesn’t hold back from giving the Holy Spirit to me because I take refuge in Him.

“he who takes refuge in Me...will possess My holy mountain.” (Isa. 57:13)

“...none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.” (Psa. 34:22)

“...He has not despised...the afflicted; neither has He hidden His face from him...” (Psa. 22:24)

...The radiance around you is so intense that when I draw near to You, You will draw near to me! (James 4:8)

“How blessed are the people who know the joyful sound! O Lord, they walk in the light of Your countenance. In Your name they rejoice all the day, And by Your righteousness they are exalted. For You are the glory of their strength...” (Psa. 89:15-17).

Lord, I praise You for the light that shines onto me from Your face. By drawing near, the light of Your Spirit becomes a fortress around me (Psa. 27:1-5). You are my refuge. Lord, Your presence is what soothes me!

“...O Lord God, You are my confidence...” (Psa. 71:5)

“...You, O Lord, are...my glory...” (Psa. 3:3 TAB)

My “...adequacy is from God.” (2 Cor. 3:5)

“You are my God...I exalt you.” (Psa. 118:28 NIV)...

“to the end that we...would be to the praise of His glory.” (Eph. 1:12)

“From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised.” (Psa. 113:3)

“...it is Heaven that rules.” (Dan. 4:26)
Enjoying God as My Reassurance and What Soothes Me

I delight that the reassurance I need, is...

...not in the power and control there is in disobedience to God. Setting my heart to enjoy God soothes me better...

...not in distracting myself with what I watch on T.V. That God draws near freely, is and offer too great for me to avoid...

...not from getting and having more “stuff.” Receiving and having God’s presence is always new and soothes me more...

...not from my getting and having more money. It is far better to love receiving and enjoying God’s close presence...

...not in soothing myself with the food I eat. I love that the abundance of what God gives is far more filling...

...not from the appearance of the clothes I wear. I love wearing the presence of God more. Lord, I praise You...

...not the glory of how well I avoid getting caught. The glory of having God as my strong refuge is more thrilling...

...I turn my soul away from earthly ways of soothing myself—I repent of little “gods.” Lord, I love Your grace to soothe my hurt with an abundance of your presence—without my having to deserve it...

...I don’t have to wait to come to You because You Lord are my good. I welcome and receive Your presence (Psa. 73:28)...

When I come to You Lord, You wash me clean (Heb. 10:19,22)...

“I said to the Lord, ‘You are my Lord; I have no good besides You.’” (Psa. 16:2)

“The Lord is my strength and my shield; My heart trusts in Him, and I am helped; Therefore my heart exults, And with my song I shall thank Him.” (Psa. 28:7)...

“...My soul clings to You...” (Psa. 63:8)

Lord, Your presence is my reassurance, “You are my hiding place and my shield...” (Psa. 119:114)...

“On God my salvation and my glory rest; The rock of my strength, my refuge is in God.” (Psa.. 62:7)

“...O Lord... You are my refuge, My portion in the land of the living.”” (Psa. 142:5)

“...You are my God...My soul thirsts for You, my flesh yearns for You...” (Psa. 63:1)...

“...My soul clings to You...” (Psa. 63:8)

...I can receive Your presence Lord because You are a fountain; I welcome Your presence (Psa.. 36:7-9; Jer. 2:11-13)...

“O God, You are my God...” (Psa. 63:1)...

“For You are my rock and my fortress; For Your name’s sake You will lead me and guide me.” (Psa. 31:3)

“On God my salvation and my glory rest; The rock of my strength, my refuge is in God.” (Psa.. 62:7)

“...He has not despised...the afflicted; neither has He hidden His face from him...” (Psa. 22:24)

“...O Lord... You are my refuge, My portion in the land of the living.”” (Psa. 142:5)

“...My soul clings to You...” (Psa. 63:8)

“Guard my soul...for I take refuge in You.” (Psa. 25:20)...
Enjoying God as My Reassurance and What Soothes Me

(One of these...)
I delight that the reassurance I need is...

...not from believing lies that my human competence is enough. The closeness of God as my adequacy is more soothing...

...not from righteousness that I might think I have earned. God is my righteousness. Lord, I praise You...

...not from how good I appear to other people. The beauty of God’s presence is what reassures me. I love You, Lord...

...not in how hard I've worked and how much I've done for God—not even from approval I earn by reading my Bible and praying. Lord, I love that You work by what You pour through me. I love that I can draw near and drink...

...not in seeing bad things happen to other people. God as my reassurance is more thrilling. Lord, I love Your kindness...

...not from how others fail to measure up. God is the standard—not me. I love God’s compassion toward hurting people...

...not in my soothing myself what I hear about people. I exalt You Lord. It is more filling to reassure myself with God...

...not in how justified I am in feeling contempt toward other people. God is the one who justifies. His power soothes me...

(And then this...)
I delight to grab my soul and turn it from my earthly ways and toward the Lord. I don’t have to be my own God! The radiance of God—graciously lavished upon me—is a far better way to find reassurance...

(And then one of these...)
“...You are my God...I exalt you.” (Psa. 118:28 NIV)...  
“...You are my King and my God...” (Psa. 44:4 NIV)
When I come to You Lord, You wash me clean (Heb. 10:19,22).

...I can receive Your presence Lord because I can draw near and You are a fountain (Psa. 36:7-9; Jer. 2:11-13; Heb 1:3).
“...How precious is Your lovingkindness, O God! And the children of men take refuge...They drink their fill of the abundance of Your house; And You give them to drink of the river of Your delights. For with You is the fountain of life; In Your light we see light.” (Psa. 36:7-9)

I can repent because, “The Lord is my shepherd...” (Psa. 23:1) I can rest into receiving His presence...

“...He guides me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.” (Psa. 23:3)  
“...repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord” (Acts 3:19).
Heart hear this: “...He will not fail you...” (Deut. 4:31)
“...He has not despised...the afflicted; neither has He hidden His face from him...” (Psa. 22:24)
“To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O my God, in You I trust...” (Psa. 25:1,2)
“The Lord is my strength and my shield; My heart trusts in Him, and I am helped; Therefore my heart exults, And with my song I shall thank Him.” (Psa. 28:7)...
“...He will not fail you...” (Deut. 4:31)
“...He has not despised...the afflicted; neither has He hidden His face from him...” (Psa. 22:24)
“...He will not fail you...” (Deut. 4:31)
“...He has not despised...the afflicted; neither has He hidden His face from him...” (Psa. 22:24)
“...He will not fail you...” (Deut. 4:31)
“...He has not despised...the afflicted; neither has He hidden His face from him...” (Psa. 22:24)
Enjoying God as My Reassurance and What Soothes Me

I delight that the reassurance I need is...
...not from how much I feel like I am in control. It is the closeness of God’s powerful presence that reassures me most...

...not from how well I get what I want. Resting into receiving God’s presence reassures me more...

...not from how well my anger controls people. God is a better way to feel secure...

...not from how well I get others to feel condemned. God is the standard—not me. Lord, it is You that I praise...

...not in how well I justify myself. God is the one who justifies me...

...not in how well I achieve the expectations of people. I love that God doesn’t treat me that way. God is my reassurance...

...not from wearing self-inflicted guilt and shame as status. Jesus paid the price on the cross. The Lord reassures me...

...not from the sympathy poor health might earn. God is the one who soothes my pain...

...not from reasons why I deserve their sympathy. I love that I don’t have to earn reassurance from God...

...not from my having a relationship with______________. Being close and having relationship with God is more filling...

I turn and repent of having to reassure myself by praise for what I achieve. I delight that I can turn and trust God to draw near so that His closeness can be my reassurance—Lord, I love soothing myself with You—You are my God. I love keeping my spiritual eyes on You...

Lord, “You are my hiding place and my shield...” (Psa. 119:114)...
“...For in the day of trouble He will conceal me in His tabernacle; In the secret place of His tent He will hide me; He will lift me up on a rock.” (Psa. 27:5)
“I love You, O Lord, my strength.” (Psa. 18:1)
“The Lord is my strength...and I will praise Him...” (Exo. 15:2)...

Lord, “...You are my refuge in the day of disaster.” (Jer. 17:17)...
“...none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.” (Psa. 34:22)
“Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; Yes, our God is compassionate.” (Psa. 116:5)
“...Since I am afflicted and needy, Let the Lord be mindful of me. You are my help and my deliverer... O my God.” (Psa. 40:17)

“The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, My God, my rock, in whom I take refuge; My shield and...my stronghold.” (Psa. 18:2)...
Lord, You are “...my rock and my fortress.” (Psa. 71:3)
“...Though a host encamp against me, My heart will not fear; Though war arise against me, In spite of this I shall be confident.” (Psa. 27:3)
Enjoying God as My Reassurance and What Soothes Me

(One of these...)  
**I delight that the reassurance I need is...**

...not how well I protect myself from risk. Lord, you are my reassurance and it is you that I praise—not myself...

...not in what I know. The closeness of the wisdom and knowledge of God is what I love. Lord, I praise you—not me...

...not from lofty ideas about how things should be done. God’s wisdom is worthy of praise—not mine...

...not in my analyzing it more. It is God who is my reassurance. God’s knowledge is greater...

...not how well I understand it. Lord, you are my reassurance and it is you that I praise—not myself...

...not from the doctrines I believe or the new things I learn. God is my reassurance. Lord, I love your presence most...

...not in making my mind a place of refuge. God is a safer place of refuge. Lord, I praise you—not myself...

...not how respectable I feel. Lord, you are my glory...

...not in my figuring out why____________________. God already knows. Being close to God is what I love...

(And then this...)  
...I delight to grab my soul and turn it from my earthly ways and toward the Lord. I don’t have to be my own God! The radiance of God—graciously lavished upon me—is a far better way to find reassurance...

(And then one of these...)  
“You are my God...I exalt you.” (Psa. 118:28 NIV)...

“You are my King and my God...” (Psa. 44:4 NIV)  
When I come to you Lord, you wash me clean (Heb. 10:19,22).

“Though a host encamp against me, My heart will not fear; Though war arise against me, In spite of this I shall be confident.”  
(Psa. 27:3)...

“...the Lord loves His people...” (2 Chron. 2:11)  
“Guard my soul...for I take refuge in you.” (Psa. 25:20)  
...Lord, you are “...my rock and my fortress.” (Psa. 71:3)...

“...O Lord God, You are my confidence...” (Psa. 71:5)...

“...You, O Lord, are...my glory...” (Psa. 3:3 TAB)  
My “...adequacy is from God.” (2 Cor. 3:5)

“You are my God...I exalt you.” (Psa. 118:28 NIV)...

“to the end that we...would be to the praise of His glory.” (Eph. 1:12)  
“From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised.” (Psa. 113:3)  
“...it is Heaven that rules.” (Dan. 4:26)
Enjoying God as My Reassurance and What Soothes Me

(One of these...)
I delight that the reassurance I need is...
...not how respectable I must have appeared to them. Lord, You are my glory...

...not how well I blend into my surroundings. God’s presence around me that is my protection. Lord, I love Your grace...

...not in my having worried enough. It is better to trust in God. He is my reassurance—not me.

...not from ____________________________...

...not in how well I avoid people who might not like me back. Lord, it is Your love that gives me energy to love them...

...not a weak sense of security coming from any of my own human resources. God is my reassurance...

...not from how well I earn their praise. Lord, You are my praise. I love that I don’t have to earn it...

...not in how well I keep people impressed. Lord, it is Your glory that is impressive—not mine. God is my reassurance...

...not from having more status than other people. Lord, it is You that I love to praise—not me. You are my reassurance...

...not the feedback I get about how well I did. The closeness of God is the reassurance that I need and love most...

(And then this...)
...I delight to turn my soul and “die” to independence from God. Being fully convinced that I am before the Lord and that He is before me here is the safest thing I could do. I love God’s radiance upon me...

(And then one of these...)
“...The Lord is my God.” (Zech. 13:9)...
“...My soul clings to You...” (Psa. 63:8)
You alone are my reassurance: “The Lord is my strength...and I will praise Him...” (Exo. 15:2)

...I delight that You won’t hold back from giving Your Holy Spirit because I take refuge in You (Isa. 57:13)...
I don’t have to wait to draw near because You are my good; I welcome Your presence (Psa. 73:28).
When I come to You Lord, You wash me clean (Heb. 10:19,22).

I will, “...Ascribe greatness to our God!” (Deut. 32:3)
The radiance around you is so intense that when I draw near to You, You will draw near to me! (Ezek. 1:28; Rev. 4:6; 22:1; James 4:8)
“Praise the Lord...Praise your God...” (Psa. 147:12)...
“You are my God...I exalt you.” (Psa. 118:28 NIV)

...Lord, You are “...my rock and my fortress.” (Psa. 71:3)...
“The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, My God, my rock, in whom I take refuge; My shield and...my stronghold.” (Psa. 18:2)