



# Impossible Circumstances

In the winter of 1777–1778, George Washington and his army camped at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. The soldiers faced freezing temperatures, starvation, and disease. Many had no shoes, no coats, and little food. Some men wanted to quit; others questioned whether the Revolution could survive. Washington, exhausted himself, visited the camps daily, encouraging his troops and sharing their hardships. He prayed for strength and refused to give up. Through discipline, faith, and determination, he helped the army endure until spring, when new training and supplies arrived. Valley Forge became a powerful symbol of perseverance — proof that courage isn't only found on the battlefield, but also in the will to keep going when hope fades.

## Writing Prompt:

George Washington's endurance at Valley Forge helped keep the Revolution alive. Imagine being in his position — tired, outnumbered, and uncertain of victory. Would you have had the strength to keep leading? Why or why not? Then, connect this theme to your own life or to a story you know:

- When have you (or someone you've read about) had to keep going despite hardship or doubt?
  - What helps people stay strong when everything seems to be going wrong?