



Sermon Discussion Questions

August 11, 2019

Series: Praying the Psalms

Sermon: True Confessions

Read Psalm 51:1-6

As you read Psalm 51, we see David approach God with a heavy burden and the bondage of sin in his life. A burden he could not carry any longer, but as he honestly confesses and repents before God, David exchanges his bondage for freedom.

Verse 6 tells us that God delights in truth and honesty in our hearts. As we seek intimacy with the Father, we are called into a daily rhythm of submission, honest confession and repentance with the Father. What does your pursuit of intimacy with the Father look like? Does it consist of an honest examination of your heart before God daily?

Another aspect of honest confession is that it leads you into real authentic relationships with others. We see that David had an honest relationship with Nathan as they could be accountable and confess sins together. We see an aspect of their relationship is that they cared for one another's spiritual health and were willing to live out their faith together through the ups and downs. As you think about this...

Who's your Nathan? Who can you confess your sins to?

As you reflect on your life, what are some sin patterns you can confess before God today in a time of reflection and prayer?

Family Time

Read Psalm 51:1-6

As a family, discuss why you think God delights in truth in our hearts. How can telling the truth make us feel better instead of holding things in or being dishonest?



Sermon Discussion Questions

August 4, 2019

Series: Praying the Psalms

Sermon: The Lord is My Shepherd, Part 2

Read Psalm 23:1-6

The question was asked, how is your soul? Take a moment and reflect and prayerfully consider this question.

It's been said that your soul is the most important part of you. It's the deep part of you that makes you who you are. Knowing the condition of your soul is essential if we are to have a healthy and growing relationship with God and others. How does this psalm or the message you heard encourage you to trust God's leadership and care? David tells us, the Shepherd makes him lie down and find rest for his soul. What circumstances are keeping you from lying down and resting in God's care?

The psalmist found comfort in God's rod and staff. God's Word is a tremendous source of strength and comfort for our soul. His Word also provides safe boundaries and His Spirit helps us to live within those boundaries. Is there an area in your life that you feel like God's Word or His Spirit is asking you to surrender to His care?

Family Time

Read Psalm 23: 1-6

This month's theme for our kids at **GRACEPOINT** is obedience. Obedience is defined as trusting who is in charge by doing what you are asked to do.

David uses an example of a shepherd's rod and staff and how they both protect and comfort us. Talk with your kids about how God's Word offers boundaries and parameters and when we choose to obey, we remain in His care. Like a good parent, we place boundaries on our kids because we love them. Take some time and help your kids understand that when people love them, they may put boundaries around them for their protection, but the motive is always love.



Sermon Discussion Questions

July 28, 2019

Series: Praying the Psalms

Sermon: Truths to Live By

Read Psalm 13:1-6

As you read Psalm 13, we see David approach God in his prayer life honestly by expressing feelings of confusion, fear and aggravation. As you read of David's honesty and complaint, how does this encourage you to share your own struggles with God? As you examine your own prayer life, spend some time thinking about how honest you are with expressing your struggles with God.

We see in Psalm 13 that David is able to look to the future with hope because of God's faithfulness in the past. Meditate on ways that God has shown Himself faithful to you in the past. How can focusing on God's past faithfulness affect your hope about the future?

What are some character traits of God that help you to trust Him even when you are confused or aggravated? Reflect and rest in God's character this week and identify at least 3 character traits of God to meditate and pray through.

Family Time

Read Psalm 13 as a family.

What does it mean that God has steadfast/unfailing love for us? What are some things you can do when you feel like God is not showing His love toward you to be reminded that His love is steadfast no matter the circumstances?



Sermon Discussion Questions

July 21, 2019

Series: Praying the Psalms

Sermon: My Help and Deliverer

Read Psalm 40:1-3

It was said that our “pit” has purpose. Often when we are in circumstances that can feel like a “pit”, it is difficult to see that God would have purpose in it. What encouraged you from the sermon regarding a difficult time or “pit” you have experienced in your life? Can you relate to the circumstances of David? How does David’s response inform or encourage you and your view when you are at the bottom of your “pit” or difficult circumstance?

Have you attempted to work your way out of difficult circumstances by your own strength? What are some things you have tried to pull yourself out of the “pit”? According to these verses, it will be God that will lead us out of the “pit”. But this may require that we wait patiently on Him. What does trusting and waiting for God look like for you as you wait?

While many of you may not currently feel like your in a “pit”, however all of us at one time or another have been or will be in a “pit”. Part of God’s purpose for these challenging times is that God will be glorified as we share with others how He delivered us from the “pit” and set our feet on solid ground. How can you share of God’s faithfulness with others as a part of your grace story?

Family Time

Read Psalm 40:1-3 together as a family

Think of a time where it was hard to wait for something (examples, vacation, birthday, holiday, summer break, getting a privilege back)? What was the hardest thing about waiting? How did you feel once the waiting was over? Parents, explain to your kids that in seasons of waiting there is still purpose. God wants us to learn to be content, to be grateful and to learn to rely on Him while we wait.



Sermon Discussion Questions

July 14, 2019

Series: Praying the Psalms

Sermon: The Lord is My Shepherd

Read Psalm 23:1-6

We defined cynicism as “the emotional disposition of distrust or rejection toward an idea, person or group as a result of negative experiences.” Are there circumstances in your life that have led to a cynical outlook? Do you struggle with cynicism? How has this affected your view of God or your prayer life?

As we look at Psalm 23, we’re reminded that to overcome a spirit of cynicism we must **know** the Good Shepherd. This is not mere knowledge about God, but an intimate knowledge of God. As you think about your knowledge of God, would you consider your knowledge of God more intimate and personal or distant and disconnected? Do the negative circumstances in your life lead you to know Him on a more personal level or does it lead you to feel more distant and isolated?

Knowing, believing and trusting God is essential when walking through life’s valleys. If God feels distant in your life right now, reflect on ways that He has demonstrated His goodness to you.

Read again Psalm 23:6. How does it encourage you in your knowledge of God that His goodness and mercy follow you in all circumstances. While your circumstances may not always be good, God’s goodness is present. In your most difficult circumstances, how can you still see the goodness of God? How does it encourage to know that regardless of our sin, it is His mercy that He offers, not His wrath?

Family Time

Read Psalm 23:1-6 together as a family

As you’re well aware, our kids learn a lot by watching how we respond as parents to life’s circumstances. If we respond in a cynical way, our kids are more likely to mirror cynicism. How can you help your kids see God’s goodness in all circumstances, both positive and negative?

What past challenging circumstances have you walked through as a family? Where and how did you see God’s goodness and guidance? Help your kids celebrate these things and continue to point out how they can see God’s goodness in all circumstances.



Sermon Discussion Questions

July 7, 2019

Series: Praying the Psalms

Sermon: The Law of the Lord is Perfect

Read Psalm 119:43-48 and Psalm 19:7-10

The Psalmist teaches us that **freedom** is found in obeying God's Word, because God's ways and parameters in our life gives us **joy** in all circumstances, something the world promises but cannot deliver. Do you agree with the above statement? Can you recall a time or season in your life when obeying God's Word led to more freedom and joy in your life?

We see Psalm 19 that God's Word is pure, it revives our souls, guides us and leads us to joy. If we know this to be true, what keeps you/us from studying and meditating on God's Word?

What can you do this week to ensure you find time to be in His Word? If you do not have a regular time set aside to study and read God's Word, how can you create a regular rhythm in your life starting today?

Family Time

Read Psalm 19:7-9 together as a family.

Discuss with your children how rules and limits can help and protect them. God also gives us rules and limits because He loves us. Discuss some rules/limits that the Bible instructs us to do and how it can help us. (examples- 10 commandments; being kind to your neighbor).



Sermon Discussion Questions

June 30, 2019

Series: Praying the Psalms

Sermon: How Majestic is Your Name

Read Psalms 8

As we read in Psalm 8 and also heard in our last prayer series, that prayer is where the Majestic meets the mundane. As you consider this message, how often do you pause and meditate on God's majesty and that he cares for you?

What are some circumstances or situations in your life that seem to be too big or overwhelming? As you read and consider the realities of Psalm 8:3-4, look at your circumstance or situations through the lens of these verses. How does this change your perspective on these circumstances?

Our response to the Majestic this week is to meditate on the Majestic name of our great God! Let these meditations lead you to worship in gratitude that your great God is mindful of you, yes even you!

Family Time

Read Psalm 8:3-4 together as a family.

As a family, take some time this week to look at a sunset or the stars. Together, have your kids talk about how this reminds them on how great God is. Read verse 4 again, how does it encourage you that a God that big cares for you? How might we thank Him and express worship to Him that he cares for us too.



Sermon Discussion Questions

June 23, 2019

Series: Praying the Psalms

Sermon: Blessed Be the Name of the Lord

Read Psalms 34

As we are starting our *Praying through the Psalms* series first pray through Psalms 34 and reflect on these three truths we discovered in this Psalm.

- When you read "the eyes of the lord are toward the righteous" how does that view inform your current perspective of your circumstances? Does knowing that God sees all of life encourage you to trust him more?
- Take some time right now think about all the circumstances in your life that you would like to bring to God. When you read that the lord hears the cry of the righteous how does this encourage you to bring all of life to him?
- These circumstance that you have listed above may leave you feeling "brokenhearted". We were reminded of a powerful truth that the Lord is near the brokenhearted. These circumstances cannot separate you from the Father, how does this truth bring you comfort? Let your cry of need turn to trust as you rest in the fact that the Father sees your circumstances, hears your cry, and comforts you in brokenness.

Family Time

As a family read together Psalm 34 and reflect on the truths that you read:

God sees, God hears and God is near

For each of these three truths ask your child what it means to them that God sees, God hears and God is near?

Remind your kids that one of the greatest comforts is knowing and believing these three truths is that no matter what circumstances we walk through in life, God cares!

As you consider the truths from this passage pick one or two verses to pray through as a family and believe God for.