



FAMILY DEVOTION

WEEK 2

LAWNDALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MONDAY, MARCH 23

Scripture: Psalm 130

QUESTIONS :

- The book of Psalms contains more songs of lament than any other genre (around 70). What does this tell you about how we can interact with God?
- It's through these songs of lament that the Holy Spirit teaches us that it's ok to be brutally honest with God and ourselves. How does it make you feel knowing that we can be brutally honest with God?
- The Psalmist starts "out of the depths I cry to you." Have you ever felt like you've been in the "depths"?
- It's not abnormal for us to have feelings of grief, loneliness, perplexity, anger, frustration, abandonment, despair, and a host of other feelings. How has God delivered you from these feelings in the past? Do you believe that he can deliver you from these feelings now?
- Almost always, laments move from negative to positive, from plea to praise. What does this tell us about the way God works? (There's redemption even in the midst of the "depths")
- What are the ways in which this Psalm ends positively?

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

Scripture: Psalm 25

QUESTIONS :

- Three times in this Psalm, David acknowledges that he is a sinner by confessing his sin and asking for forgiveness. Can you find all three? (v. 7, 11, and 18)
- Verses 1-3 establish that David is going to put his trust in God. What are things that we are always putting our trust in other than God?
- There are two questions that this Psalm answers. The first of these is who is this God? What does this Psalm teach us about God? (v. 4-11)
- The other question is who are those that follow this God? What does this passage say about those who follow God? (v. 12-15)
- Can you point out some feelings that David is expressing in verses 16-21?
- The key verse in this whole Psalm is verse 10. What does this say about our God?
- Is he steadfast/faithful even in the midst of David's afflictions, trials, and struggles? How much more faithful will he be to your afflictions, trials, and struggles?

Opening:

Habakkuk 1:5b

Sing together

My Hope is Built on Nothing
Less

Closing Prayer

Go around the room and pray for our state and local leaders as we navigate life in a COVID-19 world.

Closing Song: From the Depths of Woe (Psalm 130) - This may be the only instance in which I don't recommend the Indelible Grace Version. On YouTube I like a version by "Trinity Church"

Opening:

Lamentations 3:22

Sing together

Be Thou My Vision

Closing Prayer

Go around the room and take turns praying for each other and extended family.

Closing Song:

Steadfast by Sandra McCracken

W E D N E S D A Y , M A R C H 2 5

Scripture: Psalm 107

Q U E S T I O N S :

- If you're a Christian, then this Psalm is for you! The overwhelming theme of this Psalm is "look what the Lord has done for me!" Share a personal story about God showing his goodness to you, while you were perhaps far from him.
- This Psalm highlights a number of different kinds of people that were wandering and lost but God redeemed them. Can you identify any of these throughout this Psalm?
 - Lost (v.4), hungry and exhausted (v.5), without a city (v.7), guilty (v.10-11), imprisoned (v. 16), sick (v. 17), and those who are battered by a storm (v. 23-32).
 - Have you ever been in any of these categories? (perhaps you may be in one or more of these right now!)
- How does Jesus meet each of these needs?
- There are two kinds of people in this passage: those who brought trouble on themselves (the guilty and self-damaged) and those who did not (the homeless and storm tossed). But they all had something in common. What is it? Take a look at verses 6, 13, 19, 28.
- What does this tell us about God?
Is anyone too far gone to be saved by God?
- The lesson of this Psalm: oh how he loves us, let's give him thanks!

T H U R S D A Y , M A R C H 2 6

Scripture: Psalm 121

Q U E S T I O N S :

- When you need help, where do you tend to look?
- What is the point the Psalmist is trying to make in this Psalm? (The superior source of help is in the Lord)
- What are some reasons the Psalmist gives that show that the Lord is the superior source of help?
- Have you ever lost sleep over something that you worried about? What does it mean that God neither slumbers nor sleeps?
- The pressures of life are constantly beating down on us like the sun beating down on us all day. What are pressures that you are dealing with?
- What relief does God provide from the "sun" of pressures? (Shade! v. 5)
- Do you experience God's presence as a cool shade or a refreshing breeze?

Opening:

1 Thessalonians 5:18

Sing together

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

Closing Prayer

Go around the room and each person pray and tell God something that they are thankful for, perhaps something he has done or is doing in your life right now.

Closing Song: Oh Give Thanks (Psalm 107) by Wendell Kimbrough

Opening:

Isaiah 41:10

Sing together

I Need Thee Every Hour

Closing Prayer

Go around the room and each person pray to God that we would receive the grace to know him more as our shade and help.

Closing Song:

Psalm 121 by the Corner Room (this is the worship leader at Cahaba Park PCA in Birmingham, AL)

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

Scripture: Psalm 42

QUESTIONS:

- What are the images and feelings the Psalmist uses to describe how much believers need the presence of God?
- Where does the Psalmist place his hope in the midst of this distance from God?
- Verse 5 is repeated in verse 11 and is the focal point of this Psalm. It puts forth the old adage “this too shall pass.” How does knowing that even though our good times will be shaken, that our bad times will always end?
- What are the truths that he reminds himself of in verses 6-8?
- What are the truths from your life that you can remind yourself of during hard times?

Opening:

Malachi 4:2

Sing together

As The Deer

Closing Prayer

Go around the room and each person pray that during this time, that we would have hope in what seems to be hopeless times. Tell him what you worry about and what burdens you.

Closing Song: Lord From Sorrows Deep I Call (Psalm 42) by Keith and Kristyn Getty

SATURDAY, MARCH 29

Scripture: Scripture: Psalm 51

QUESTIONS:

- This Psalm is loaded, so feel free to come up with your own questions or be labor certain points. This was written after David’s sin with Bathsheba and Nathan confronts him.
 - Tim Keller describes verse 4 as “cosmic treason.” Do you believe that by sinning against someone means you sin against God too? What is often the penalty for treason?
 - David asks God to “blot out” his sin. How can God blot out David’s sin without striking him dead— which is the just penalty for what he has done? (Think penal substitutionary atonement here— the punishment was taken by someone else)
 - Read Colossians 2:14. What did it cost Jesus to make this true?
 - Verse 17 says that God desires for us to have a broken and contrite heart. What does a broken and contrite heart look like?
- Read the following Keller quote: A broken and contrite heart is “a heart that knows how little it deserves yet how much it has received. To know only the first truth is to be self-loathing, to know only the second is to be self-satisfied— and both kinds of hearts will be self-absorbed. David is talking instead about hearts broken by costly, free grace— knowing both how lost and how loved we are.” Have you ever asked for this kind of brokenness in your life? How does it make you feel knowing that you’re free from feeling the need to defend yourself, or standing on your own dignity, or your own wits and ability?

Opening:

1 John 1:9

Sing together

Amazing Grace

Closing Prayer

Go around the room and each person pray for forgiveness for our sins. Pray that God would hide his face from our sins and forgive us.

Closing Song:

God Be Merciful to Me (Psalm 51) by Indelible Grace