

Daily In the Word with Pastor K. Cunningham

May 16th, 2020

THOUGHTS ON THE “QUIET TIME” or “DAILY DEVOTIONS”

“QUIET TIME” (QT), aka “Daily Devotional,” describes the spiritual discipline of a daily time set aside for communion with God, listening to Him (His Word) and speaking with Him (Prayer). While the phrase “quiet time” is not found in Scripture, the concept of men communing with God is found repeatedly. Even after the first Adam’s sin, we see God continuing to pursue their relationship, calling out to Adam “Where are you?” ([Ge 3:9-note](#)) Mark records that “In the early morning, while it was still dark, (Jesus, the “Last Adam” [1Cor 15:45-note](#)) arose and went out and departed to a lonely place, and was praying there.” ([Mk 1:35-note](#)) clearly demonstrating His dependence on and need for communion with His Father (E.g., Jesus declared “I do nothing on My own initiative, but I speak these things as the Father taught Me.” [Jn 8:28-note](#), [Jn 5:19-note](#), [Jn 5:30-note](#)) If Jesus, our Example of the perfect Man ([1Pe 2:21-note](#), [1Cor 11:1-note](#), [1Jn 2:6-note](#)) perceived the need to meet with His Father, how much more do we as followers of Jesus need to meet regularly with the Father!

Scripture and church history repeatedly attests to the fact that those used greatly by God were those who met regularly with God. In [Ge 19:27-note](#) “Abraham arose early and went to the place where he had stood in the presence of the LORD.” In [Ex 33:11-note](#) “the LORD used to speak to Moses face to face, just as a man speaks to his friend.” The biographer of [Dwight L. Moody](#), one of history’s greatest evangelists records that “He was an early riser. He generally rose about daybreak in summer, devoting the early hours to Bible study and communion with God. He used to say that one who followed this plan could not get more than twenty-four hours away from God!” (The Life of D. L. Moody by A P Fitt) One of the greatest British preachers [G. Campbell Morgan](#) “was a man who coveted for himself a constant withdrawal from the pressing demands of his busy life and kept inviolate the sanctity of the early morning vigil of prayer and meditation. Here he breathed the atmosphere of heaven and daily recharged his spirit with the power that in turn poured out in extravagant measure in the preaching and proclamation of the Word.” (A Man of the Word by Jill Morgan) [George Müller of Bristol](#), the Christian philanthropist who was famous for his orphanages *funded* by prayer (he never ask men for money, only God!), was having health problems for which doctors prescribed more sleep, but the later he slept, the worse his condition grew! Muller self-diagnosed his problem as less physical and more spiritual as his late sleeping had interrupted his Quiet Time. His biographer A T Pierson records that his “resumption of early rising secured long seasons of uninterrupted interviews with God, in prayer and meditation on the Scriptures before breakfast and...He found himself not worse but better physically...and, as to his spiritual life such new vitality and vigor accrued from his waiting upon God...that it continued to be the habit of his (later years)!” Of course, this story does not suggest an anemic Quiet Time will make one physically ill, but it does underscore the importance for one’s SPIRITUAL health!

Christian author Patrick Morley adds that “Whenever a man tells me that he doesn’t feel very close to God, the first question I ask is, “Tell me about your devotional life (QT).” Often the problem is just there.” Indeed, for many the prospect of a regular QT is viewed more as drudgery than as delight, more as a ritual or routine than as a relationship. Henry Blackaby encourages us “not to think of the time you spend with God as a duty. The purpose of a QT is for you to get to know God. And as you come to know Him, you can walk out of your special times with God enjoying a living relationship with Him that you can cultivate all day and throughout your life.” When we meet Christ at the Cross, we call that conversion. When we meet Him “in the closet” (QT), we call that conversation. At the Cross we come to know Christ initially, and in the closet we grow to know Him intimately (cp [2Pe 3:18-note](#)). Indeed, to be much like Christ, we must be much with Christ!

In the classic book "[My Heart Christ's Home](#)" Robert Munger writes "I remember one morning when I was in a hurry, rushing downstairs, eager to be on my way. As I passed the living room, the door was open. Looking in, I saw a fire in the fireplace and Jesus was sitting there. Suddenly in dismay I thought to myself, "He was my guest. I invited Him into my heart! He has come as Lord of my home. And yet here I am neglecting Him." I turned and went in. With downcast glance, I said, "Blessed Master, forgive me. Have You been here all these mornings?" "Yes," He said, "I told you I would be here every morning to meet with you." Then I was even more ashamed. He had been faithful in spite of my faithfulness. I asked His forgiveness and He readily forgave me as He does when we are truly repentant. "The trouble with you is this: you have been thinking of the quiet time, of the Bible study and prayer time, as a factor in your own spiritual progress, but you have forgotten that this hour means something to me also. Remember, I love you. I have redeemed you at great cost. I value your fellowship. Now," He said, "do not neglect this hour if only for my sake. Whatever else may be your desire, remember I want your fellowship!" The truth that Christ desires my companionship, that He loves me, wants me to be with Him, wants to be with me and waits for me, has done more to transform my quiet time with God than any other single fact. Don't let Christ wait alone in the living room of your heart, but every day find some time when, with your Bible and in prayer, you may be together with Him."

IS YOUR QUIET TIME TOO QUIET? The most common reason given for not having a regular QT is "Not enough time!" Beloved, if you are too busy for a QT, then you are too busy! As Charles Hummel said "Adequate time for daily waiting on God (cp [Isaiah 40:31-note](#)) is the only way I can escape the tyranny of the urgent." Jesus, addressing His disciples gave a good description of QT saying "Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place & rest a little." ([Mk 6:31KJV-note](#)), to which Vance Havner quipped "Jesus knows we must come apart & rest awhile or else we may just plain come apart!" Beloved, when the Bible becomes a part of you in your morning QT, you will be less likely to come apart during the rest of your day! Attachment to Christ is the secret of detachment from the world. We are called to live in the world, but we draw our strength from outside the world. As Howard Hendricks likes to say "you are either in the Word and the Word is conforming you to the image of Jesus Christ or you are in the world and the world is squeezing you into its mold (cp [Ro 12:2Phillips-note](#), [1Pe 2:2-note](#))." In short, our time WITH GOD in the morning prepares us for our time WITH MEN during the day. [George Sweeting](#) former president of Moody Bible once said that "If we don't maintain a QT each day, it's not really because we are too busy; it's because we do not feel it is important enough. There's an old navy rule: when ships readjust their compass, they drop anchor in a QUIET SPOT (ponder that picture a moment in light of our discussion of quiet time).....Late nights kill the quiet time. Quiet time is not just a helpful idea, it is absolutely necessary to spiritual growth."

WHEN TO HAVE A QUIET TIME? Spurgeon said "In the morning is the fittest time for conversation with God. An hour in the morning is worth two in the evening. While the dew is on the grass, let grace drop upon the soul. Let us give to God the mornings of our days and the morning of our lives. Prayer should be the key of the day and the lock of the night. Devotion should be both the morning star and the evening star." David, a man after God's own heart ([Acts 13:22-note on David](#)) said "IN THE MORNING, O LORD, You will hear my voice. IN THE MORNING I will order my prayer to You and eagerly watch." ([Ps 5:3-note](#)) Baptist preacher [Robert G Lee](#) used to say "If you wake up in the morning and don't meet the devil face on, it just means you're headed in the same direction!" [Hudson Taylor](#) adds that "You don't tune up the instruments after the concert is over...(you) tune them before you start!" Job who was "blameless, upright, fearing God & turning away from evil" ([Job 1:1-note](#)) made it a continual practice of "rising up early IN THE MORNING & offering burnt offerings for each of his children." ([Job 1:5-note](#)) Puritan [Thomas Watson \(1620-1686\)](#) wrote that "The best time to converse with God is before worldly occasions stand knocking at the door to be let in: The morning is, as it were, the cream of the day, let the cream be taken off, and let God have it. Wind up thy heart towards heaven at the beginning of the day, and it will go the better all the day after. He that loses his heart in the morning in the world will hardly find it again all the day. O! Christians, let God have your morning meditations." Amen!

[Dawson Trotman](#), (founder of Navigators) actually had a morning & evening QT. His watchword in the evening was HWLW which stood for "His Word the Last Word," a reminder to himself to fall asleep meditating on God's Word. Spurgeon would have agreed for he used to say that Bible passages make soft pillows. The

renowned expositor [Stephen Olford](#) once said “I want to hear the voice of God before I hear anyone else’s in the MORNING, and His is the last voice I want to hear at NIGHT.” Olford goes on to say that “The barometer of one’s Christian life is the Quiet Time. Do you have a Quiet Time or have you let it slip? Be the man of God who takes time to be holy, speaks oft with his Lord, abides in Him only, and feeds on His Word.” God grant that this may be true of each of us. Amen

BENEFIT OF QUIET TIME: Spurgeon once said that “If we are weak in communion with God we are weak everywhere.” Do you find yourself seemingly unable to resist the temptations of a besetting sin ([Heb 12:1-note](#))? Our sensitivity to sin & ability to resist temptation is directly proportional to our “nearness to God” ([Ps 73:28-note](#)). As the respected Scottish expositor [John Eadie](#) put it “power to live a new life depends upon daily communion with the living Lord (in His Living Word -[Heb 4:12-note](#)).” Have you noticed how quickly your Iphone loses its charge during the day? Now think about our spiritual life? Quiet Times are not optional if we are to have our “spiritual batteries regularly recharged”, ready to meet the day’s challenges! [E M Bounds](#) encourages us to spend quality time with God, for “Our ability to stay with God in our closet (QT) measures our ability to stay with God out of the closet.” Vance Havner adds that “If our lives and ministry are to count for anything today, we must solemnly resolve to make time for God (QT).” It is well known that a piano can go out of tune by hard use. The constant striking of the strings may loosen them & they need to be adjusted if they are to continue producing harmonious sounds. “In like manner all common experiences have an exhausting effect upon us, even when we serve the Lord...As we minister to others, as we strive & struggle, duty drains our life-fountain. We then need to come into God’s presence for spiritual renewal...In the quietness of that fellowship He tunes our lives and strengthens us for further service.”

HOW TO DO A QUIET TIME: Keep it simple. Practice the Three P’S: A Place, a Pen (to write in your Bible and notebook) and Privacy. **One caveat: Minimize your use of devotional resources written by others.** Max Lucado says “If that is your approach, if your spiritual experiences are secondhand and not firsthand, I’d like to challenge you with this thought: Do you do that with others parts of your life? You don’t do that with vacations. You don’t do that with romance. You don’t let someone eat on your behalf, do you? There are certain things no one can do for you. And one of those is spending time with God!” Most importantly, when you leave your “Quiet Time,” don’t let your “Quiet Time” leave you! In other words, as you enter the busyness of your day, remember to take with you the truths God has spoken to your soul during your time with Him! Consciously recall specifics [passages, insights, prayers, etc] at various intervals during the day. As you begin to practice the conscious choice to reflect on your QT with God, you are more likely to find that the rest of your day becomes an ongoing experience of His presence and power. Havner

Today, I’m going to be posting these **devotional studies in the Psalms** that will start on May 18th, 2020. You can use them for family altar time or personal devotional and studies. It is my prayer that through these great questions from the it’s text that you will allow the Holy Spirit of God to teach you from His Word. The lessons will be posted on the church’s band site and website.

Because of Calvary, Pastor K. Cunningham - 1 Cor. 15:57-58

Why study the Psalms? It’s a help for:

- **Enhancing our Prayer Life** (or Life of Prayer) cf. disciples: “Lord, teach me to pray”
- **Enhancing our Praise and Worship** – “Lord, teach me to worship”
- **Encouraging us to be Authentic and Transparent before God and Others**
- **Learning More About the Character and Person of God:** His Goodness, His Sovereignty, His Holiness, His Wrath, His Lovingkindness, His Mercy, His Power, His Majesty, His Transcendence and yet Imminence balanced.
- **Learning more about our Lord Jesus Christ as we see the Messiah in the Psalms**
- * **Learning about Ourselves and our Insufficiencies**

Let Us open our hearts and learn from God's Word together:

(Daily In the Word with Pastor K. Cunningham)

Devotional Study for May 18th, 2020

Open in Prayer

Read: Psalm 1

(And answer the following questions.)

Open It

1. When has peer pressure influenced your attitudes or actions?
2. What's most important to you about your friendships with Christians?

Explore It

3. What activities does the righteous person avoid? ([1:1-3](#))
4. How are the righteous and the wicked different? ([1:1-6](#))
5. How does the psalm writer connect delight and meditation? ([1:2](#))
6. What does a righteous person do a lot? ([1:2](#))
7. What does the image of the tree tell us about the righteous person? ([1:3](#))
8. In what way is a righteous person rewarded for being righteous? ([1:3](#))
9. What differences are there between righteous people and unrighteous people? ([1:3-5](#))
10. What differences are implied by the references to "tree" and "chaff"? ([1:3-5](#))
11. How are the wicked described in the psalm? ([1:4-5](#))
12. What consequences do the wicked face? ([1:5](#))
13. What role does the Lord play in relation to the righteous and the wicked? ([1:6](#))
14. How do the futures of the righteous and the wicked differ? ([1:6](#))

Get It

15. What does it mean to meditate on God's law day and night?
16. What positive ideals does this psalm encourage us to follow?
17. What does this psalm teach us about spiritual discipline?
18. In what sense does a righteous person "prosper"?
19. What image or mental picture would you use to describe yourself?
20. What activities should you avoid because of your desire to be righteous?
21. Whose company should you avoid and why?
22. How can we demonstrate our delight in God's Word?
23. What kind of "fruit" should we yield?
24. In what specific ways does this psalm encourage you to seek righteousness?

25. How have you experienced the Lord's protection in your life?

Apply It

26. What specific steps can you take in the next few weeks to demonstrate your delight in God's Word?

27. What concrete action can you take to avoid an unrighteous behavior?

28. What righteous attitude or action would you like to cultivate in your life over this next week?

Don't forget to close in prayer thanking and praising God for what you have learned from His Word.

(Daily In the Word with Pastor K. Cunningham)

Devotional Study for May 19th, 2020

Open in Prayer

Read: Psalm 2

(And answer the following questions.)

Open It

1. *What characteristics make a good leader?
2. What do you think are some of the dangers in being a leader?

Explore It

3. What rhetorical question opens this psalm? ([2:1](#))
4. How successful are people when they plot against the Lord? ([2:1](#))
5. What aspects of the Lord's character are revealed in this psalm? ([2:1-12](#))
6. Who tries to stand against the Lord? ([2:2](#))
7. What do the rulers of the world want to accomplish? ([2:3](#))
8. How does God react to the leaders of the earth trying to overthrow Him? ([2:4](#))
9. How does God demonstrate His righteousness to wicked people? ([2:5](#))
10. *What does God want us to know? ([2:6-9](#))
11. How far does God's power extend? ([2:8](#))
12. What will God's Anointed One accomplish? ([2:9](#))
13. *What warning are leaders given in this psalm? ([2:10](#))
14. What are some dangers in being a leader? ([2:10](#))
15. What attitude of worship should we have? ([2:11](#))
16. *What advice does this passage give us? ([2:11-12](#))

Get It

17. How do you think the nations today are similar to the ones described in this psalm?
18. In what ways do you think rulers of our modern world conspire against Christ?
19. *What are some of the dangers of being in leadership?
20. *How is the psalm writer's advice to leaders relevant to you?
21. Practically speaking, how can we "take refuge" in God?
22. What should we do to avoid God's wrath?
23. How can Christian leaders protect themselves from using their status or power for selfish purposes?
24. What does this psalm teach us about God's character?

25. How does this poem change your perception of God?
26. How do you think the words of this psalm could be applied to Christ?
27. In what practical ways can you demonstrate your respect for the Lord?

Apply It

28. *What steps can you take in the next few weeks to use your influence for God's glory?
29. What is one act of service to God that you could do today?
30. How can you "take refuge" in the Lord this next week?

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Devotional Study for May 20th, 2020

Open in Prayer

Read: Psalm 3

(And answer the following questions.)

Open It

1. In what circumstances do you feel safe and secure?
2. What often threatens our sense of security?
3. *What measures do people commonly take to protect themselves?

Explore It

4. *What predicament prompted David to write this poem? ([3:1-2](#))
5. How were David's enemies intimidating him? ([3:2](#))
6. Where did David get his hope? ([3:3](#))
7. What image did David use to describe God's protection? ([3:3](#))
8. *How did the Lord show His love for David? ([3:3](#))
9. What is God like? ([3:3](#))
10. How did David deal with his fears? ([3:4](#))
11. How did God respond to David's cries for help? ([3:4](#))
12. How did David demonstrate his faith in God's protection? ([3:5](#))
13. Whom did David credit for his sense of security when he was surrounded by enemies? ([3:5](#))
14. *To what extent was David willing to trust the Lord? ([3:6](#))
15. What action did David ask the Lord to take on his behalf? ([3:7](#))
16. What expression of confidence concludes David's prayer? ([3:8](#))
17. What did David ask God to do? ([3:8](#))

Get It

18. When have you ever felt you were in a hopeless situation?
19. How have you experienced God's protection?
20. *What does this psalm teach us about God's protection of His loved ones?
21. What should we do when we feel intimidated by others or overwhelmed by our problems?
22. *How can you follow David's example in dealing with your own fears?
23. What action do you need the Lord to take on your behalf?

24. What expression of confidence can you offer in prayer to the Lord?

Apply It

25. *What step can you take to entrust God with one of your fears?

26. How can you show your thankfulness to the Lord for His protection over you?

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(Daily In the Word with Pastor K. Cunningham)

Devotional Study for May 21st, 2020

Open in Prayer

Read: Psalm 4

(And answer the following questions.)

Open It

1. *If you were to write a poem about your relationship with God, what would you focus on?
2. What attributes of God's have you thought about most in your life?

Explore It

3. How is the Lord described in this passage? ([4:1](#))
4. From what did David need to be saved? ([4:1](#))
5. What motivated David to write this psalm? ([4:1-8](#))
6. *What is the theme of this psalm? ([4:1-8](#))
7. Why does David rebuke others in this poem? ([4:2-3](#))
8. What assurance does this psalm offer? ([4:3](#))
9. What weakness can draw people away from the Lord? ([4:4](#))
10. *What advice does David give to those who want to remain righteous? ([4:4-5](#))
11. *How did David's relationship with the Lord affect his attitude? ([4:7](#))
12. How did David describe his joy? ([4:7](#))
13. How did David demonstrate his trust in the Lord? ([4:8](#))
14. Where did David get his sense of security? ([4:8](#))

Get It

15. How would you describe your relationship with the Lord at this time in your life?
16. How does your relationship with God affect your attitude?
17. *What weakness or temptation threatens to draw you away from the Lord?
18. How does God want us to handle temptations?
19. *What do you think you could do to strengthen your relationship with God?
20. What steps can we take to help each other overcome our weaknesses?
21. What does this psalm teach us about how to become righteous?
22. What is one way you can show your trust in the Lord?
23. What promise in this poem would you like to claim for yourself?

Apply It

24. *What small steps could you take in the next week to strengthen your relationship with God?

25. What concrete action can you take to guard against a temptation in one area of weakness?

26. How can you encourage a friend in his or her relationship with God?

Don't forget to close in prayer thanking and praising God for what you have learned from His Word.

(Daily In the Word with Pastor K. Cunningham)

Devotional Study for May 22nd, 2020

Open in Prayer

Read: Psalm 5

(And answer the following questions.)

Open It

1. *Why do you think personal crises motivate people to pray more?
2. When has an emergency or personal problem caused you to pray?

Explore It

3. What were the psalm writer's main requests? ([5:1-12](#))
4. How is the psalm writer's main request repeated throughout the poem? ([5:1-12](#))
5. When and how did David pray? ([5:2-3](#))
6. How are wicked people limited? ([5:4-5](#))
7. To what characteristics of God did the psalm writer appeal? ([5:4-12](#))
8. How did David describe wicked people? ([5:5](#))
9. *What attitude did David have in presenting his request to the Lord? ([5:7](#))
10. How did David describe his enemies? ([5:9-10](#))
11. How did David trust God to judge the wicked, rather than seeking revenge himself? ([5:10](#))
12. *How did David deal with the offenses against him? ([5:9-10](#))
13. What did David ask God to do? ([5:10-12](#))
14. Whom did David include in his prayer? ([5:11](#))
15. Whom does the Lord protect and bless? ([5:11-12](#))
16. *What attitude should believers have and why? ([5:11-12](#))
17. How did David use the image of a shield to describe what God does for the righteous? ([5:12](#))
18. What does God do for the righteous? ([5:12](#))

Get It

19. What many reasons do people have for praying?
20. What usually motivates people to pray?
21. In light of this passage, what attitude should we have when we pray?
22. How do you need to change your attitude toward prayer?
23. *How are faith and prayer connected?
24. When has your faith been challenged or stretched?
25. What distracts you from praying?
26. *What steps can you take to keep up a consistent habit of prayer?
27. What does this passage teach us about arrogance?
28. How can we guard against the sin of arrogance?

29. What have you learned about the character of God from this psalm?

Apply It

30. *What is one step you can take in the next week to improve your prayer habits?

31. How could you publicly praise God for His protection over you?

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Devotional Study for May 23rd, 2020

Open in Prayer

Read: Psalm 6

(And answer the following questions.)

Open It

1. What emotions do you feel when you are sick with the flu?
2. *How do most people deal with sickness?
3. When have you felt the Lord's presence during a time of illness or sorrow?

Explore It

4. What request opens this psalm? ([6:1](#))
5. What did the psalm writer think was the reason for his illness? ([6:1](#))
6. How does the psalm writer's response to his crisis unify this poem? ([6:1-10](#))
7. *What feelings did the psalm writer have? ([6:1-10](#))
8. Why did the psalm writer believe that the Lord would be willing to save him? ([6:4](#))
9. *What motivated the psalm writer to ask the Lord for mercy? ([6:5](#))
10. What did the psalm writer believe would happen to him if the Lord did not show him mercy? ([6:5](#))
11. According to the psalm writer, what would God forfeit if He were not merciful? ([6:5](#))
12. How depressed was the psalm writer? ([6:6-7](#))
13. What encouraged the psalm writer? ([6:8-9](#))
14. How is the psalm writer protected from his enemies? ([6:8](#))
15. What expression of confidence concludes this prayer? ([6:8-10](#))
16. *What is the Lord's response to the psalm writer's cries for mercy? ([6:9](#))
17. How would the psalm writer's enemies react to his restoration? ([6:10](#))

Get It

18. When have you ever felt like the writer of this psalm?
19. How do you usually deal with feelings of fear, sadness, or depression?
20. What motivates you to cry out to the Lord?
21. *How do you think the Lord wants you to deal with life's difficulties?
22. In what specific ways should we follow the psalm writer's example?
23. What does this poem reveal about the psalm writer's relationship with the Lord?
24. How would you like your relationship with God to be similar to the psalm writer's?
25. How would you describe the psalm writer's prayer in this passage?
26. *What does this psalm teach us about prayer?

27. What does this psalm teach us about dealing with depression?
28. How has the Lord shown His love for you?
29. What gift of praise can you offer the Lord?

Apply It

30. What feelings or problems do you want to trust the Lord with today?
31. *What steps could you take to spend more time telling God your honest thoughts or feelings?
32. How can you demonstrate your thankfulness to the Lord for His love for you?

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Devotional Study for May 24th, 2020

Open in Prayer

Read: Psalm 7

(And answer the following questions.)

Open It

1. When was a time you saw justice served?
2. *What fears have you heard people express?
3. When have you seen our justice system fail?

Explore It

4. *What fears inspired David to write this psalm? ([7:1-2](#))
5. What familiar image did David, as a former shepherd, use to describe his fears? ([7:1-2](#))
6. What qualified David to plead with God for deliverance? ([7:3-5](#))
7. Under what conditions was David willing to forgo God's protection? ([7:3-5](#))
8. To what character traits of God did David appeal? ([7:6-11](#))
9. How did David want to be judged by God? ([7:8](#))
10. According to the psalm writer, how does God demonstrate His righteousness? ([7:9-11](#))
11. *How did David demonstrate his confidence in God? ([7:10-13](#))
12. What image did David use to describe how God will express His wrath against the wicked? ([7:11-13](#))
13. What general principle of life did David use to comfort himself? ([7:14-16](#))
14. What are the consequences of evil? ([7:14-16](#))
15. *What motivated David to praise God? ([7:17](#))

Get It

16. What is unique about God's character that enables Him to be a perfect judge?
17. What are some of your fears?
18. How do you usually deal with your fears?
19. *In what ways is David a good example for us in handling fear?
20. What does this passage teach you about the character of God?
21. *How does God's character encourage you to face the fears and problems in your life?
22. How can you demonstrate your confidence in God's deliverance?

23. What do you think are some of the consequences of disobedience to God?

24. What motivates you to offer praise to the Lord?

Apply It

25. *What specific steps could you take in the next few days to trust God with your fears?

26. What could you do to remind yourself of God's righteousness this week?

27. Who is another person you could encourage with what you have learned in this lesson?

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Devotional Study for May 25th, 2020

Open in Prayer

Read: Psalm 8

(And answer the following questions.)

Open It

1. *What do you like most about the outdoors?

2. What lessons about life have you learned from nature?

Explore It

3. What theme or themes hold this psalm together? ([8:1](#))

4. How does the first verse introduce the focus of the poem? ([8:1](#))

5. How did David describe the Lord? ([8:1-9](#))

6. Why do children praise God? ([8:2](#))

7. How does the Lord silence His enemies? ([8:2](#))

8. What motivated David to write this psalm? ([8:3](#))

9. *What did David find most amazing about God's creation? ([8:3-4](#))

10. *How do people get all of their power and responsibility? ([8:3-6](#))

11. What attitude did David have about himself and all people? ([8:4](#))

12. With what value did God create people? ([8:5](#))

13. How do people fit into the heavenly realm of beings? ([8:5](#))

14. What has God done for us? ([8:5-8](#))

15. *What are some responsibilities that all of us have? ([8:5-8](#))

16. How does the last verse unify the poem? ([8:9](#))

Get It

17. Why do you think God chose to surround us with creation?

18. What prompts you to praise the Lord?

19. What do you find most amazing about God's creation?

20. What does creation reveal to us about God's nature?

21. *What does this psalm tell us about self-esteem and responsibility?
22. What can we learn from David about the attitude we should have about ourselves?
23. Over what (in today's world) has God given us responsibilities?
24. How should we treat nature? animals?
25. How does our attitude toward creation reflect our perspective of God?
26. *What responsibility do you have in caring for nature?
27. How has this psalm changed your attitude toward nature and God?

Apply It

28. *When could you spend a few minutes in the next few days enjoying God's creation?
29. What small step could you take this week to help care for God's creation?

Don't forget to close in prayer thanking and praising God for what you have learned from His Word.

(Daily In the Word with Pastor K. Cunningham)

Devotional Study for May 26th, 2020

Open in Prayer

Read: Psalm 9

(And answer the following questions.)

Open It

1. What misconceptions do you think many people have about God?
2. *When was a time you doubted God's presence or willingness to help?
3. What is one cause for which you have fought?

Explore It

4. *What prompted David to offer this poem of praise to the Lord? ([9:1-18](#))
5. What theme unifies this poem? ([9:1-20](#))
6. What did God accomplish in destroying Israel's enemies? ([9:3-6](#))
7. To what extent were David's enemies defeated? ([9:3-6](#))
8. How did David describe God's rule? ([9:4](#), [7-8](#))
9. How does the Lord meet the needs of people who are oppressed? ([9:9-10](#))
10. *What lesson did David learn about God's character? ([9:10](#))
11. *Why did David call people to praise the Lord? ([9:11-12](#))
12. For what reason did David ask the Lord to rescue him from his enemies? ([9:13-14](#))
13. What will eventually become of the wicked under God's just rule? ([9:15-18](#))
14. What reputation does the God of Israel have? ([9:16](#))
15. How does God defeat the plans of wicked people? ([9:16](#))
16. What will happen to the needy and afflicted, regardless of their place in society? ([9:18](#))
17. What prayer concludes the psalm? ([9:19-20](#))

Get It

18. How do the actions of Christians influence people's perception of God?
19. *What does this psalm call you to do?
20. *How should we pray when we are concerned about a wicked or unjust practice?

21. What challenge or problem do you face in your life?
22. How does God want you to handle your fears and anxieties?
23. How does this psalm encourage you about your present situation?
24. How should we follow David's example in this psalm?
25. When has the Lord been a stronghold for you in times of trouble?
26. How can you demonstrate to the Lord your praise for His help and deliverance?
27. How do the actions and attitudes of Christians influence what others think about God?
28. What do you think unbelievers could learn about God from your actions?

Apply It

29. What steps could you take to give your fears or concerns over to God?
30. *What is one way you can contribute to a righteous cause or movement?

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(Daily In the Word with Pastor K. Cunningham)

Devotional Study for May 27th, 2020

Open in Prayer

Read: Psalm 10

(And answer the following questions.)

Open It

1. When has your mouth gotten you in trouble?
2. What unfair or wrong actions do people often seem to get away with?
3. What's one thing you remember your mother saying to you?

Explore It

4. How did the psalm writer feel about his circumstances before he put his confidence in the Lord's deliverance? ([10:1](#))
5. From what did the psalm writer need to be rescued? ([10:1-18](#))
6. How are innocent people affected by the actions of wicked people? ([10:2](#), [8-10](#))
7. Where do wicked people get their confidence? ([10:2-10](#))
8. How are wicked people described in this psalm? ([10:2-11](#))
9. What are the sins of the wicked? ([10:2-11](#))
10. What accusations did the psalm writer make against the wicked? ([10:2-11](#))
11. What attitudes do wicked people have toward God? ([10:3-11](#))
12. What three weapons of the tongue do wicked people employ? ([10:7](#))
13. What action did the psalm writer want the Lord to take on his behalf? ([10:12](#), [15](#))
14. In what way did the psalm writer want God to prove the wicked wrong? ([10:13-14](#))
15. To what character trait of the Lord did the psalm writer appeal? ([10:14](#))

16. Where did the psalm writer place his confidence and why? ([10:16-18](#))

Get It

17. Why do you think the words that we say have such power?

18. What are some ways words can be used for good?

19. What does the psalm writer's boldness in this prayer reveal about his relationship with the Lord?

20. How would you like your prayer habits to change, in light of the psalm writer's example?

21. How do you sometimes feel about your problems before you trust the Lord with them?

22. In what ways do you feel different about your problems after you have committed them to the Lord in prayer?

23. How does praying about our problems help us?

24. Who is one person you have a hard time tolerating?

25. How does this passage encourage you to handle your problems?

26. How should we handle our frustration with unfairness or wrongdoing that goes unpunished?

27. What action would you like the Lord to take on your behalf?

28. To what character traits of the Lord can you appeal?

29. What reasons do you have to place your confidence in the Lord?

30. What are the sins of the wicked today?

31. How can we guard against committing the sins described in this psalm?

32. What action can we take to control our tongues?

33. What injustice do you need to commit to the Lord?

Apply It

34. In what situation can you demonstrate trust the Lord's justice?

35. Concerning what "wicked" person or situation do you need to pray [Psalm 10](#)?

Don't forget to close in prayer thanking and praising God for what you have learned from His Word.