

The Bible Study for the week of April 29nd to May 5th

To help with confusion: This Study is in two parts. The first part is the lesson that will be discussed on Tuesday at 10:30 am. The 2nd part is THE GO DEEPER section for anyone who has more time or wants more reflection. As a reminder, these studies are to inspire and motivate you; the time invested is completely up to each person.

INTRO: Prayer is a major part of the Christian's walk. God has given us the opportunity to have a two-way conversation, allowing a deeper relationship to form. If we want to understand what "hearing the voice of God" is and experience it, developing a prayer life is key. Before getting into the how to's, I thought we could look at a Psalm from David this week. To me, he is one of the best examples of having an interactive prayer life with God.

PART ONE: Tuesday's discussion is on Psalm 25. My Bible has the 22 verses set in 5 sections and has described this Psalm as a prayer for protection, guidance and pardon.

Questions:

1. What do you think of David's honesty and vulnerability? Reflection (R): Have you talked with God in a similar manner?
2. In the way David writes (his choices of words and topics), what does it tell you about his relationship with God? (R) What topics or words connect with you?
3. Did you want to underline or memorize any of the verses? Why?
4. In your own prayer life, do you find encouragement/support from David? The Psalms can actually be our prayers, too: "Dear Lord, teach me your paths....remember me....relieve the troubles of my heart...let integrity and uprightness preserve me."

PRAYER TIME: How can we, your church family, pray for you? Do you need protection, guidance or forgiveness?

PART 2: GO DEEPER through the week

1. Reread Psalm 25 and check out Psalms 34. When reading these, try out-loud, in other versions or personalizing it -- as if you were writing it.
QU: Any words stand out when reading other versions? Do you learn about who God is, what He can do, and His relationship with David (and us).
2. Many of David's writings occur during his time of running from King Saul. He was responsible for over 500 men and their families, they had no home, or safe kingdom. Uncertainty was normal. Read a passage from Romans that bring hope for us today: Romans 8:18-28.....

²⁸ And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who^[1] have been called according to his purpose.