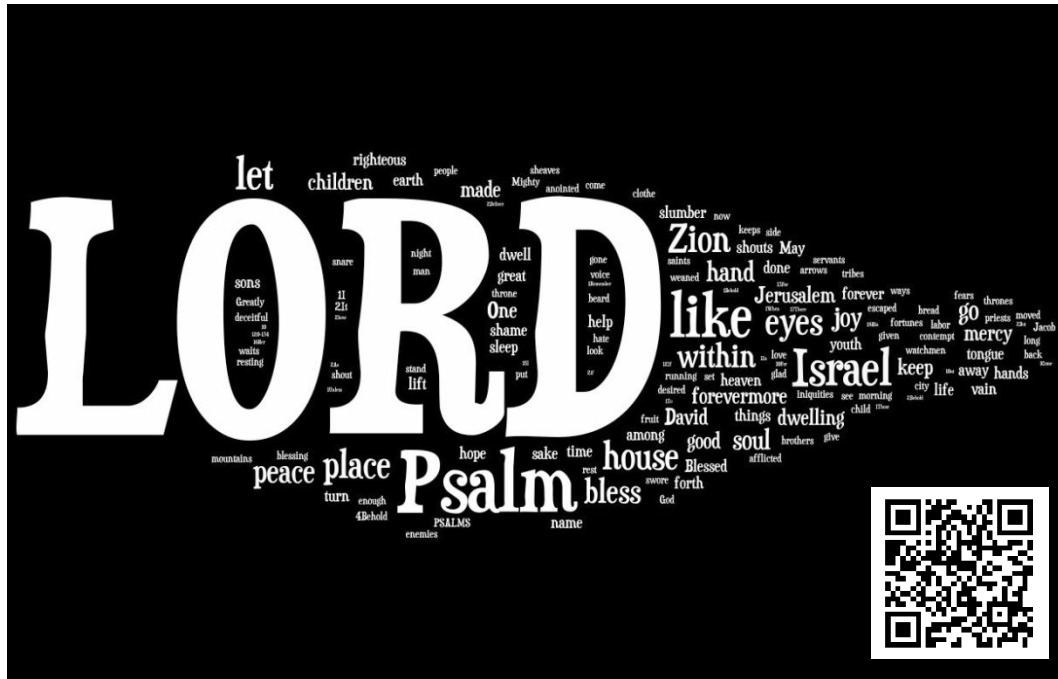


Name:  
Psalms Unit

Date:  
Mrs. Seemayer



### Unit Objectives

Know

- Students will know structural devices used in Psalms.
- Students will know figurative language terms.
- Students will know events from King David's life.

Understand

- Students will understand how the Psalms reflect King David's life and his walk with God.
- Students will understand the importance of the intentionality behind the structure of the Psalms.
- Students will understand how to pray the Psalms.

Do

- Students will be able to pray the Psalms.
- Students will be able to recognize structural devices used in Psalms.
- Students will be able to analyze a Psalm.
- Students will be able to connect David's life experiences to his Psalms.
- Students will be able to create a Psalm.
- Students will be able to write a CEPEP paragraph.

## *What Is Poetry?*

In your opinion, what makes a piece of writing a poem?

Which quotation do you agree with the most?

What does it mean, in your own words?

Why do you agree with it?

## *Poetry in the Bible*

Where do we see poetry in the Bible?

The Poetic Books:

Other books known for poetry:

A \_\_\_\_\_ is a brief poem containing the \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ of a speaker, and is usually intended to be \_\_\_\_\_ aloud. It is condensed, self-contained, and \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_.

**Most lyrics have a three-part structure:**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Lyrics typically have a single \_\_\_\_\_ that unifies the poem. The theme appears \_\_\_\_\_ the poem in \_\_\_\_\_.

After the introduction, the poet develops the theme using one or more of the following formats:

- **Repetition:**
- **Contrast:**
- **Listing or catalog:**
- **Association:**

**Why do you think the theme is so important in biblical poetry?**

## *Why Study The Psalms?*

What is the benefit, in your walk, of knowing the Psalms?

In what ways do we use the Psalms today?

### **As Christians, we are commanded to utilize the Psalms:**

**Ephesians 5:19:**

**Colossians 3:16:**

**James 5:13:**

### **Another purpose:**

**Luke 24:44-45:**

### **The Psalms serve as:**

**The Christian's \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ us in our \_\_\_\_\_ to God**

**The Christian's \_\_\_\_\_ in which we learn how to  
\_\_\_\_\_ God in \_\_\_\_\_**

**The Christian's \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
our \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus Christ**

**The Christian's \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ and righteous \_\_\_\_\_ before God**

# *An Introduction to the Psalms*

## TERMINOLOGY

- \_\_\_\_\_: from the Greek *psallo* meaning \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_: the Hebrew term for the Book of Psalms; means \_\_\_\_\_

## AUTHORSHIP OF THE PSALMS

- The majority are attributed to \_\_\_\_\_ (at least \_\_\_\_ of them)
- Others are accredited to
  - Asaph and the “sons of Korah”
  - \_\_\_\_\_, Ethan, and Herman the Ezrahite
  - many anonymous psalms

## TYPES OF PSALMS

- \_\_\_\_\_ - An expression of \_\_\_\_\_, pain, loss, incomprehension, \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_. More psalms fall into this category than into any other.
  - \_\_\_\_\_:
    - Pertaining to an unjust accusation
    - Repentance for personal sins
    - Illness or incapacity
  - \_\_\_\_\_:
    - National emergencies
    - Plague, drought, famine, or other natural threats
- \_\_\_\_\_ - An expression of joy and thankfulness to God in response to some gracious act of God.
  - Individual Thanksgiving
  - Community Thanksgiving
- \_\_\_\_\_ - Praise and honor of God just because God is God

- Individual Praise
- Community Praise
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ - Songs of praise suitable for various occasions
  - Enthronement Hymns
  - Songs of Zion
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ - Poems giving advice about responsible living
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ - Poems recounting God's saving acts throughout history
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ - Expressions of trust in God's faithfulness
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ - For use in royal coronations or weddings
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ - Reflections on God's majesty expressed through creation
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ - Various elements of worship used by Israel
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ - Psalms that point to Christ

## *Structuring Devices*

<b>Structuring Device</b>	<b>Definition</b>

*King David*

**Brainspill**



*Reading 1*  
The Shepherd's Hymn

**Reading:** 1 Samuel 16

**Questions about the Reading:**

Why did this anointing take place in secret?

- Who did Samuel anoint?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- What great lesson did Samuel learn?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- What can we learn from that verse?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- What does God see when He looks on your heart?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- After David is anointed, who sends for him?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- What does David do for Saul?

## *Inclusion/Envelope*

**What is an inclusion/envelope?**

**Why would a poet use the inclusion or envelope strategy while writing?**

### **The Glory of the LORD in Creation To the Chief Musician. On the instrument of Gath. A Psalm of David.**

<sup>8</sup> O LORD, our Lord,  
How excellent *is* Your name in all the earth,  
Who have set Your glory above the heavens!

<sup>2</sup> Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants  
You have ordained strength,  
Because of Your enemies,  
That You may silence the enemy and the avenger.

<sup>3</sup> When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers,  
The moon and the stars, which You have ordained,

<sup>4</sup> What is man that You are mindful of him,  
And the son of man that You visit him?

<sup>5</sup> For You have made him a little lower than the angels, <sup>[b]</sup>  
And You have crowned him with glory and honor.

<sup>6</sup> You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands;  
You have put all *things* under his feet,

<sup>7</sup> All sheep and oxen—  
Even the beasts of the field,

<sup>8</sup> The birds of the air,  
And the fish of the sea  
That pass through the paths of the seas.

<sup>9</sup> O LORD, our Lord,  
How excellent *is* Your name in all the earth!

**The Inclusion:**

**The effect of the inclusion-**

## **Psalm 8: Praying Our Creation**

Disorientation is a terrible experience. If we cannot locate our place, we are in confusion and anxiety. We are also in danger, for we are apt to act inappropriately. If we are among enemies and don't know it, we may lose our life. If we are among friends and don't know it, we may miss good relationships. If we are alongside a cliff and don't know it, we may lose our footing. In Psalm 8, we find out where we are and some important aspects of who we are.

### **Warming Up to God**

When traveling, have you ever awakened and not known where you were? The bed is unfamiliar; the room is strange; you look out the window and don't recognize anything. What does it feel like to be disoriented?

[Read Psalm 8](#)

### **Discovering the Word**

- Browse through the psalm and note every word that refers to what God has created. How do these things reveal God's glory?
- Why do you think the psalmist contrasts what children and infants say with what foes and avengers say(v.2)?
- What evidence do we have that God is mindful of us, that he cares for us?
- "Ruler" and "under his feet" (v. 6) can be twisted into excuses to exploit and pillage. What is there in this psalm to prevent such twisting?

### **Applying the Word**

- How does Psalm 8 compare with the way you view yourself?
- What adjustments do you need to make to view yourself as God views you?
- Some people think of themselves as "a little higher than the heavenly beings"; others think, "a little lower than the beasts of the field." In what area has Psalm 8 corrected your self-image?

### **Responding in Prayer**

Praise God and use this psalm as the basis for your praise.

## *Reading 2*

**Reading:** 1 Samuel 17

**Questions about the Reading:**

- What was David? Describe his job.
- Why did Jesse, David's father, send David to the battlefield?
- What did David see when he got to the front lines?
- What was Goliath's boast?
- Why was everyone afraid in Saul's army?
- What did David offer to do?
- Why was David so confident that he could defeat Goliath?
- Why didn't David wear Saul's armor?
- What did Goliath say when he saw David?
- What was David's ringing statement to Goliath?
- What Goliaths need defeating in your life?
- How can you run to meet your fears?

\*A shepherd's slingshot isn't like the ones we use today. It consisted of a small patch of leather with two long straps. An average shepherd could hit a target over 50 yards away. The stone flew off of the patch at over 60 miles an hour.

## Psalm: 9

<sup>1</sup> I will praise *You*, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
I will tell of all Your marvelous works.

<sup>2</sup> I will be glad and rejoice in You;  
I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.

<sup>3</sup> When my enemies turn back,  
They shall fall and perish at Your presence.

<sup>4</sup> For You have maintained my right and my cause;  
You sat on the throne judging in righteousness.

<sup>5</sup> You have rebuked the nations,  
You have destroyed the wicked;  
You have blotted out their name forever and ever.

<sup>6</sup> O enemy, destructions are finished forever!

And you have destroyed cities;  
Even their memory has perished.

<sup>7</sup> But the LORD shall endure forever;  
He has prepared His throne for judgment.

<sup>8</sup> He shall judge the world in righteousness,  
And He shall administer judgment for the peoples in uprightness.

<sup>9</sup> The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed,  
A refuge in times of trouble.

<sup>10</sup> And those who know Your name will put their trust in You;  
For You, LORD, have not forsaken those who seek You.

<sup>11</sup> Sing praises to the LORD, who dwells in Zion!  
Declare His deeds among the people.

<sup>12</sup> When He avenges blood, He remembers them;  
He does not forget the cry of the humble.

<sup>13</sup> Have mercy on me, O LORD!  
Consider my trouble from those who hate me,  
You who lift me up from the gates of death,

<sup>14</sup> That I may tell of all Your praise  
In the gates of the daughter of Zion.  
I will rejoice in Your salvation.

<sup>15</sup> The nations have sunk down in the pit *which* they made;  
In the net which they hid, their own foot is caught.

<sup>16</sup> The LORD is known *by* the judgment He executes;  
The wicked is snared in the work of his own hands.

Meditation. [b](#) Selah

<sup>17</sup> The wicked shall be turned into hell,  
*And* all the nations that forget God.

<sup>18</sup> For the needy shall not always be forgotten;  
The expectation of the poor shall *not* perish forever.

<sup>19</sup> Arise, O LORD,  
Do not let man prevail;  
Let the nations be judged in Your sight.

<sup>20</sup> Put them in fear, O LORD,  
*That* the nations may know themselves *to be but* men. Selah

**Questions about the Psalm:**

1. How will the Lord judge the world? (7-8)
  
  
  
2. To whom is the Lord a refuge? (9)
  
  
  
3. Who does the Lord not forget? (12,18)
  
  
  
4. Who will be turned into hell? (17)

**Directions:** Answer the following question in CEPEP format.

It is inferred, not confirmed, that Psalm 9 was written by David after the defeat of Goliath. Why might scholars come to this conclusion?

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## *Reading 3*

**Reading:** 1 Samuel 18:1-4

**Summary of Bible Reading:**

**Psalm:** 23

**Questions about the Psalm:**

1. What events in David's life form the background for this psalm?
2. What is the significance of designating Jehovah as "My Shepherd"?
3. What does the Psalmist portray by picturing the shepherd causing his sheep to "lie down" in green pastures or being led by "still waters"?
4. How does our Shepherd restore the soul?
5. What is the "valley of the shadow of death"?
6. What distinction in function is to be made between the "rod" and the "staff" of the shepherd? How do they "comfort" the flock? To what does this refer in giving comfort to the believer?
7. What is the "table" to which David refers?
8. In what sense did David's cup "run over"?
9. Why is David convinced of continual blessings in his life?
10. What is the "house of the Lord" to which David refers? What does it mean to "dwell" there? How could he dwell there "forever"?

## Psalm 23: Praying Our Fear

The world is a fearsome place. If we manage with the help of parents, teachers and friends to survive the dangers of infancy and childhood, we find ourselves launched in an adult world that is ringed with terror—accident, assault, disease, violence, conflicts. Prayer brings fear into focus and faces it. But prayer does more than bravely face fear; it affirms God's presence in it.

### Warming Up to God

Spend some time trying to bring your fears into focus. Know that God is with you in the midst of your fear.

[Read Psalm 23](#)

### Discovering the Word

- There are two large metaphors in the psalm: the shepherd (vv. 1-4) and the host (vv. 5-6). Compare and contrast these two images.
- Look carefully at the shepherd. How exactly does he care for his sheep (vv. 1-4)?
- "I fear no evil" (v. 4) is a bold statement. What does it mean for you to say that?
- Look carefully at the host. How exactly does he provide for his guest (vv. 5-6)?

### Applying the Word

- Enemies are prominent in the psalm prayers and appear here. Who are your enemies?
- What is the most comforting thing that you have experienced in the life of faith?
- Psalm 23 is a weapon against fear. What fear in your life will you go to war against with this prayer as your cannon?

### Responding in Prayer

Name your fears and ask Christ the Shepherd and Christ the Host to relieve them.



## *Reading 4*

The Lord Our Shield

**Reading:** 1 Samuel 18:5-16

**Summary of Bible Reading:**

**Psalm:** 59

**Questions about the Psalm:**

1. What particular experience of David forms the background of this Psalm?
2. How does David describe his enemies in this Psalm?
3. How do David's enemies sin against him?
4. How does David describe himself with respect to his own righteousness?
5. What does David ask God to do to his enemies?
6. Why does he ask God to "slay them not"?
7. What does Jehovah's authority over the nations have to do with David's desire upon his enemies? (See: vv. 5,8,13,16)
8. What does David mean when he says God will "laugh" at the heathen?
9. What does "grudge" mean in verse 15?
10. In what terms does David describe his relationship to Jehovah?

## *Reading 5*

**Reading:** 1 Samuel 20

**Questions about the Reading:**

- Who was David's best friend?
- How do David and Jonathan get acquainted?
- What is Jonathan's plan to save David if Saul tries to kill David? (1 Samuel 20:12-23)
- Is Jonathan being disloyal to his father, Saul? Why or why not?
- Why does King Saul want to kill David?
- What is jealousy?
- Which commandment does jealousy break?
- How do we keep ourselves and others from being jealous?
- Define "friendship."
- What qualities are necessary to make a good friend?



## *Reading 6*

**Reading:** 1 Samuel 21 - 24:22

**Questions about Bible Reading:**

- Why did David flee?
- Why didn't David try to kill Saul when he had the chance?
- What is mercy?
- What kind of character did it take to let Saul live?
- Was David a better person than Saul? Why, or why not?
- Why is it important to forgive?
- What was Saul's problem?
- Why couldn't he accept David's goodness?

64 Hear my voice, O God, in my meditation;  
Preserve my life from fear of the enemy.  
<sup>2</sup> Hide me from the secret plots of the wicked,  
From the rebellion of the workers of iniquity,  
<sup>3</sup> Who sharpen their tongue like a sword,  
And bend *their bows to shoot* their arrows—bitter words,  
<sup>4</sup> That they may shoot in secret at the blameless;  
Suddenly they shoot at him and do not fear.  
<sup>5</sup> They encourage themselves *in* an evil matter;  
They talk of laying snares secretly;  
They say, “Who will see them?”  
<sup>6</sup> They devise iniquities:  
“We have perfected a shrewd scheme.”  
Both the inward thought and the heart of man are deep.  
<sup>7</sup> But God shall shoot at them *with* an arrow;  
Suddenly they shall be wounded.  
<sup>8</sup> So He will make them stumble over their own tongue;  
All who see them shall flee away.  
<sup>9</sup> All men shall fear,  
And shall declare the work of God;  
For they shall wisely consider His doing.  
<sup>10</sup> The righteous shall be glad in the LORD, and trust in Him.  
And all the upright in heart shall glory.

# Psalm 34: Deliverance from Trouble

David writes this psalm for the spiritually immature, who need to be instructed in the ways of God. One thing David thinks we need to know is how to live in a way that brings the blessing of God. How do we face the hard times? When we hurt, we want to know: Have we done something wrong? Has God deserted us? What do we need to do to receive God's help? These are good questions. If we pay attention to David, we will get some answers.

## Warming Up to God

It assaults our pride to acknowledge that there are things we don't know or problems we can't overcome. But when we stop trying to do it ourselves, we are in a position to receive the help God sends. List questions that you have for God. Don't tell him what to do, just ask. Then sit quietly for a while and listen.

## Read Psalm 34

## Discovering the Word

- What words does David use in verses 1-10 to express his feelings toward God?
- What benefits are mentioned in verses 1-10 that come to those who seek God's help?
- What do you think David means by inviting his readers to "taste and see that the Lord is good?"
- From verses 11-22, describe a righteous person.
- According to what David writes, righteousness doesn't guarantee a trouble-free life. What assurances of comfort do the righteous have during times of pain?

## Applying the Word

- How can the goodness of God be a means of strength in the problems that you face?
- Fear of the Lord is an Old Testament term for "respect and submission to God." We should be afraid of offending God with conscious acts of disobedience. What temptations are you facing now?
- How can learning the fear of the Lord keep you acting and thinking righteously?

## Responding in Prayer

Ask God to increase your ability to "taste and see" that he is with you and that he is good.

Read more: <http://www.ivpress.com/bible/study.php?study=181#ixzz2wRaP3hnd>

## *Reading 7*

**Reading:** 1 Samuel 26

**Questions about the Bible Reading:**

- Why is Saul still in pursuit of David?
- What is jealousy? Why is it bad?
- Why wouldn't David kill Saul? (I Sam 26:9)
- Why does David take Saul's spear and water jug? (I Sam 26:10-12)
- What was David's message to Saul and his body guard? (I Sam 26:15-16)
- What is Saul's reaction to David's message?
- Should David return to Saul? Why?
- Would you be as forgiving if someone tried to hurt you?

## Reading 8

**Reading:** 2 Samuel 5

**Summary of Bible Reading:**

**Psalm:** 93

**Questions about the Psalm:**

1. What attributes of God can we see in this Psalm?

a. His \_\_\_\_\_ vs. 1a

b. His \_\_\_\_\_ vs. 1b

c. His \_\_\_\_\_ vs. 1c & 3-4

d. His \_\_\_\_\_ vs. 1d

e. His \_\_\_\_\_ vs. 2 & 5c

f. His \_\_\_\_\_ vs. 5a

g. His \_\_\_\_\_ vs. 5b

2. Do the attributes of God in this Psalm remind you of any incidents in the life of our Lord Jesus Christ?

**Questions of personal application:**

1. How should this Psalm influence your prayers tonight?

2. Is there a particular verse that speaks to your heart?



## *Reading 9*

Have Mercy Upon Me, O God

**Reading:** 2 Samuel 11-12

**Questions about Bible Reading:**

- What did David do wrong?
- Do you think Bathsheba was innocent? Why, or why not?
- David was King so he could have any woman he wanted; what was so wrong about selecting Bathsheba?
- How many wives did David have?
- Why did David order Uriah home?
- Who was Uriah, and why wouldn't Uriah stay with his wife?
- What did David do to Uriah?
- Which commandments did David break?
- What happened after Uriah died?
- What happened to the first-born child of David and Bathsheba?

**Psalm: 51**

**Questions about the Psalm:**

1. What event in the life of David occasioned the writing of this psalm?
2. What does David do in the very beginning of this psalm?
3. Upon what attribute of God is David relying as he pleads with Him?
4. Since David had sinned against not only Uriah, but also Bathsheba and Joab, how do you explain the statement of David in verse four?
5. To what does David refer in verse five?
6. How does David describe the forgiveness of sins?
7. What is the fruit of repentance in a believer? (Vv. 12-15)
8. What did David know that the Pharisees of Jesus' day did not? (See: Matthew 12:7)
9. What are the sacrifices God wants and accepts? What does this mean?
10. For what is David praying in verse 18 and 19? (Cf. 2 Samuel 12:12-14)

# Psalm 51: Praying Our Sin

Alongside the basic fact that God made us good (Ps 8) is the equally basic fact that we have gone wrong. We pray our sins to get to the truth about ourselves and to find out how God treats sinners. Our experience of sin does not consist in doing some bad things but in being bad. It is a fundamental condition of our existence, not a temporary lapse into error. Praying our sin isn't resolving not to sin anymore; it is discovering what God has resolved to do with us as sinners.

## Warming Up to God

As Christians, we know we are sinful. Why then is it so painful to be confronted with a specific sin? What sin have you been avoiding talking to God about? Take it to God and experience his forgiveness.

## Read Psalm 51

## Discovering the Word

- List the different synonyms for sin in David's prayer.
- What is God asked to do about sin? (Count and name the verbs.)
- Verse 10 is the center sentence. How does it center the prayer?
- Forgiveness is an internal action with external consequences. What are some of them (vv. 13-17)?
- What do you understand a "broken and contrite heart" to be (v. 17)?
- According to verses 18-19, what is the relationship between personal forgiveness and social righteousness?

## Applying the Word

- When have you had a "broken and contrite heart"?
- Psalm 51 makes us aware of how sinful we are, and it makes us less actively sinful. How do you see it working that way in you?

## Responding in Prayer

Be quiet before God. In silence confess your sins to him. Accept his forgiveness and grace.

**Psalm: 32**

**Questions about the Psalm:**

1. When did David probably write this psalm?
2. Unto whom does David ascribe "blessedness"?
3. What is "guile"? To what in his own life does David refer here?
4. What affect did David's sin have upon his conscience?
5. Unto whom does David say God forgives sin?
6. In an earlier psalm the floods of waters referred to the oppressions of David's enemies; to what do they refer in this psalm?
7. How does David describe Jehovah in this psalm? (v. 7)
8. What does David say he will become to men who have had troubles similar to his?
9. Against what does David warn others when it comes to seeking forgiveness of sins?
10. Where in the New Testament is this psalm quoted? What application does the writer make of it?

# Psalm 32: Confession and Forgiveness

Just as cholesterol is the silent killer of the physical heart, guilt is the silent killer of our souls. Cholesterol accumulates slowly over the years, residue left by a poor diet, inadequate exercise and perhaps genetic malfunction. So it is with guilt. Little by little, with each act of envy, lust, anger, resentment or other sin, guilt accumulates around our spiritual hearts. The good news is that God won't let us succumb to guilt without many warnings. The exposure of guilt is not for the purpose of condemnation (as it is with Satan) but for cleansing our hearts and restoring the flow of his love.

## Warming Up to God

What is causing you to feel frustrated or envious or resentful today? Give your feelings over to God one by one.

## Read Psalm 32

## Discovering the Word

- Verses 1 and 2 begin with the word blessed. How would you define blessed from the way David uses it in these verses?
- David had a responsive conscience. How did his unexpressed sin affect him (vv. 3-4)?
- It feels good to be forgiven. How does David respond in verses 6-11?
- It is interesting that David experienced a sense of protection after receiving forgiveness (v. 7). How might unconfessed sin have made him feel vulnerable and exposed?
- In verses 8-9 David records the Lord's promise of guidance. From these verses, what is the condition of receiving God's guidance?

## Applying the Word

- Consider whether there are things in the past for which you are guilty but have never sought forgiveness. Name those things.
- Are there things in the past for which you feel guilty but for which there was really no wrong done? Explain.

## Responding in Prayer

Ask God's forgiveness for what you have done wrong, and experience his grace.

## *Reading 10*

### I Will Not be Afraid of Tens of Thousands of People

- **Reading:** 2 Samuel 15-18

#### **Questions about Bible Reading:**

- Why did the people love Absalom? (II Sam 15:1-6)
- Did Absalom deceive the people? David? Why?
- Why did David flee?
- What happened to Absalom? (II Sam 18:9-10,15)
- Who grieved Absalom's death?
- What important lessons do we learn from David and his family?
- David's life teaches us about many negative characteristics that we need to cast out (pride, greed, lust, selfishness, hatred, jealousy, anger, deception, vanity, pretense), which do you think is the most prominent in his story? Why?

**Psalm: 3**

**Questions about the Psalm:**

1. What is the historical background of this psalm?
2. Who are among those whom David has in mind in verse one?
3. How does David describe Jehovah in this psalm? (v. 3)
4. What was the opinion of David's enemies about him?
5. What is the significance of lifting up the head?
6. Unto what place did David pray? Why? Where is this place?
7. Was David exaggerating in verse six?
8. How was David able to sleep at night?
9. Is verse seven to be understood literally?
10. What does David mean when he says, "Salvation belongeth unto the Lord"?

# Psalm 62 : A Prayer of Trust

Humans come into the world as vulnerable creatures, completely dependent on their parents for their survival. For people to develop a healthy capacity to trust, they need to experience an emotional attachment with a nurturing parent. If children are not greeted with nurturing, empathic responses to their physical, emotional and social needs, or if the relationship with the parent is disrupted, the attachment will be threatened and the capacity to trust will be damaged. Later in life it will be difficult for them to trust God. Trust is based on a person's character, ability and truthfulness. It is an act of committing oneself to another's good intentions and care. This psalm invites us to risk trusting. It calls us to commit ourselves to God's care.

## **Warming Up to God**

What makes a person trustworthy?

### **Read Psalm 62**

## **Discovering the Word**

- How does the writer contrast God and humanity?
- The psalmist talks about resting in God. What pictures come to your mind with these words?
- In verse 8, the psalmist draws a parallel between trusting in God and pouring out one's heart to God. How are these related?
- Verse 10 warns against trusting in material wealth. Why is this such a strong temptation?
- The last two verses depict God as strong and as loving. What images of a strong and loving God are presented in the psalm?

## **Applying the Word**

- Where else might you be tempted to place your trust, other than in God?
- How does seeing God as strong help you to trust him?
- How does seeing God as loving help you to trust him?

## **Responding in Prayer**

Express your hesitations and your desires to trust God.

Read more:

<http://www.ivpress.com/bible/study.php?study=505#ixzz2wRW60QDS>



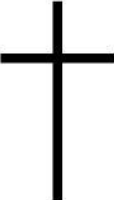
# Chiasm

## What is a chiasm?

### Chiasm can be identified on a large scale-

*The Chiasm of the History of Redemption*

God creates the heavens and earth.  
Man is created in the image of God, and the first marriage takes place.  
The first Adam fails as the representative, resulting in condemnation.  
Unholy cities are being built: Enoch, and later, Babylon and Sodom.  
Judgment by the flood comes in the days of Noah, but a remnant is preserved.  
God raises up a people for his own possession through Abraham.  
Abrahamic covenant means blessing will come to the nations.  
Mosaic covenant – righteousness and relationship with God is needed.  
Davidic covenant – life under God’s anointed ruler.  
The Prophets bear witness of coming Ruler, the Christ.  
Jesus Christ is born in the city of David.  
**The Lord Jesus is crucified.**  
Jesus Christ is resurrected from the dead.  
The Apostles bear witness to Christ risen.  
New covenant begins – Christ rules with all authority.  
New covenant brings God’s righteousness and presence.  
The gospel is spread as blessing to all the nations.  
God gathers a people, the church, for his own possession.  
Judgment comes upon the nations as in the days of Noah, but a remnant is preserved.  
Babylon falls, and the Holy City will come down from heaven.  
The Last Adam returns and is vindicated before all.  
Jesus Christ, the image of God, is married to his bride, the church.  
God creates new heavens and earth.



Sandy Young, *The Story of Redemption*, BCF 2010

### Chiasm can be identified in smaller portions-

Chiastic parallel number of days inverted after Genesis 8:1\*

7:4	7 days of waiting for flood
7:10	7 days of waiting for flood
7:17a	40 days of flood
7:24	150 days of water triumphing
8:1	GOD’S REMEMBRANCE OF NOAH
8:3	150 days of water waning
8:6	40 days’ wait
8:10	7 days’ wait
8:12	7 days’ wait

- adapted from Wenham, *Genesis 1-15*, p. 157

**Genesis 9:6**, first line reads: “whoever (1) sheds the (2) blood of (3) man”  
Second line: “by (3) man shall his (2) blood be (1) shed”

Putting this in a chiastic form of outline:

- (1) Whoever sheds
- (2) the blood
- (3) of man,
- (3') by man
- (2') shall his blood
- (1') be shed;

### **Psalm 56:3-4**

New King James Version (NKJV)

<sup>3</sup> Whenever I am afraid,  
I will trust in You.  
<sup>4</sup> In God (I will praise His word),  
In God I have put my trust;  
I will not fear.  
What can flesh do to me?

**Psalm 56:3-4**, in chiastic form looks like this

- a. When I am *afraid*,
- b. I will *trust* in you.
- c. In *God*
- d. *Whose word I praise*, (the center is often important)
- c'. In *God*
- b'. I *trust*;
- a'. I will not be *afraid*.

## Announcement of the Messiah's Reign

### A Psalm of David.

110 The LORD said to my Lord,

“Sit at My right hand,

Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.”

<sup>2</sup> The LORD shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion.

Rule in the midst of Your enemies!

A – YHWH establishes the King (v.1)

<sup>3</sup> Your people *shall be* volunteers

In the day of Your power;

In the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morning,

You have the dew of Your youth.

B – He is sent to conquer (v.2)

C – The day of power(v.3)

<sup>4</sup> The LORD has sworn

And will not relent,

“You *are* a priest forever

According to the order of Melchizedek.”

D – YHWH makes an unbreakable oath (v.4)

C' – The day of wrath (v.5)

<sup>5</sup> The Lord *is* at Your right hand;

He shall execute kings in the day of His wrath.

<sup>6</sup> He shall judge among the nations,

He shall fill *the places* with dead bodies,

He shall execute the heads of many countries.

B' – He goes out to conquer (v.6)

A' – YHWH establishes the King (v.7)

<sup>7</sup> He shall drink of the brook by the wayside;

Therefore He shall lift up the head.

**Directions:** Answer the following question in your own format.

Explain the impact of the chiasmic structure used in the Bible. Why would the authors take the time to compose such elaborate pieces of writing?

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# Psalm 4: Dealing with Anger

Anger is an emotion common to all people. Anger in itself is not sin. It is simply an emotion, a God-given part of life as a human being. It's a natural reaction to threats or injuries; yet anger is all too often expressed in ways that spread the harm around. The Old Testament is full of references to God's righteous anger or indignation against sin, and this emotional aspect of God's character also appears in the New Testament through Christ. How can we learn to "be angry, but sin not"?

## Warming Up to God

How do you generally respond when you are angry? (For example, do you talk about it or do you keep it to yourself?)

## Read Psalm 4

## Discovering the Word

- What is David angry about (v. 2)?
- How does David deal with his anger (vv. 1, 3)?
- In verse 4 David suggests that we can be angry and not sin. How do you think that could be possible?
- What do you think David means by the phrase "search your hearts and be silent" (v. 4)?

## Applying the Word

- How can reflecting on angry feelings be a healthy way of dealing with anger?
- How can knowing the joy of the Lord (vv. 6-7) help you deal with anger?

## Responding in Prayer

Talk to God about any anger you are dealing with right now. Ask him to help you express it directly and not hold it in.

## Stanza and Refrain

### Stanza-Level

A **stanza**, sometimes called *strophe*, is a group of lines that create a unit within a poem. It is the poetic equivalent of the paragraph. Stanzas can be recognized by their form or content. The transition from one stanza to the next can be marked by changes in speaker, the use of words transition words (such as *but* and *now*), and change in tense.

Stanza structure is obvious when a repeated refrain is used within a unit. In Psalms 42 and 43, which should be taken together as one psalm, the following refrain is found at 42.6, 42.11, and 43.5.

#### Yearning for God in the Midst of Distresses To the Chief Musician. A Contemplation[a] of the sons of Korah.

**42** As the deer pants for the water brooks,  
So pants my soul for You, O God.  
**2** My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.  
When shall I come and appear before God?  
**3** My tears have been my food day and night,  
While they continually say to me,  
“Where is your God?”

**4** When I remember these *things*,  
I pour out my soul within me.  
For I used to go with the multitude;  
I went with them to the house of God,  
With the voice of joy and praise,  
With a multitude that kept a pilgrim feast.

**5** Why are you cast down, O my soul?  
And *why* are you disquieted within me?  
Hope in God, for I shall yet praise Him  
For the help of His countenance.

**6** O my God, my soul is cast down within me;  
Therefore I will remember You from the land of the  
Jordan,  
And from the heights of Hermon,  
From the Hill Mizar.  
**7** Deep calls unto deep at the noise of Your waterfalls;  
All Your waves and billows have gone over me.  
**8** The Lord will command His lovingkindness in the  
daytime,  
And in the night His song *shall be* with me—  
A prayer to the God of my life.

**9** I will say to God my Rock,  
“Why have You forgotten me?”

Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of  
the enemy?”

**10** As with a breaking of my bones,  
My enemies reproach me,  
While they say to me all day long,  
“Where is your God?”

**11** Why are you cast down, O my soul?  
And why are you disquieted within me?  
Hope in God;  
For I shall yet praise Him,  
The help of my countenance and my God.

**43**  
Vindicate me, O God,  
And plead my cause against an ungodly nation;  
Oh, deliver me from the deceitful and unjust man!

**2** For You *are* the God of my strength;  
Why do You cast me off?  
Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of  
the enemy?

**3** Oh, send out Your light and Your truth!  
Let them lead me;  
Let them bring me to Your holy hill  
And to Your tabernacle.

**4** Then I will go to the altar of God,  
To God my exceeding joy;  
And on the harp I will praise You,  
O God, my God.

**5** Why are you cast down, O my soul?  
And why are you disquieted within me?  
Hope in God;  
For I shall yet praise Him,  
The help of my countenance and my God.

# Psalm 143: Asking for Guidance

"The way I was taught to pray," explained Sue, "was to list 'requests' that were really thinly disguised expectations or demands. It amazes me now, but I really felt I knew what everyone needed and that my job was to bring these needs to God's attention. I would decide what needed to be done and God would do it. Sound backward? I think so. I was surprised to discover a humbler way to pray. I learned to say, 'show me your will today and give me the power to carry it out.' I stopped telling God what to do and started to ask for guidance and help. Now I pray with an awareness that I am talking to my Creator, who knows me better than I know me, who loves me more than I love me, and who is personally involved in my life."

## Warming Up to God

What fears might keep you from seeking to know and to do God's will?

## Read Psalm 143

## Discovering the Word

- What specifically does the psalmist say he longs for in this text (vv. 1, 7)?
- What does the psalmist fear might happen (vv. 2, 7)?
- Why does the psalmist need God's help (vv. 3-6)?
- The psalmist asks for knowledge of God's will and the power to carry it out. What specifically does he ask for (vv. 8-12)?
- The psalmist reminds God: "I have put my trust in you. . . .To you I lift up my soul. . . .I hide myself in you" (vv. 8-9). What do you think the psalmist is trying to communicate to God?

## Applying the Word

- In what area of life do you feel a need for knowledge of God's will?
- What knowledge of God's will have you received, but are hesitant and needing power to carry out?

## Responding in Prayer

What guidance would you like to ask God for today?

Read more:

<http://www.ivpress.com/bible/study.php?study=678#ixzz2wRcxrCHd>

## *Reading 11*

**Reading:** 2 Samuel 22:1-51

**Summary of Bible Reading:**

**Psalm:** 18

**Questions about the Psalm:**

1. What does David state as his intent in the first three verses of this psalm?
2. How does David describe the peril he faced from his enemy Saul? (Note: vv. 4,15,16)
3. How is God pictured in this psalm? (Consider: vv. 6-17)
4. Where is the Temple to which David refers in verse six?
5. What is the character of the man whom God rescues from trouble? (Vv. 20-27)
6. Unto whom does David ascribe his success in all his conflicts?
7. To what does David refer in verse 43?
8. Who is the "violent man"?
9. Where in the New Testament is this psalm quoted?
10. What great blessing does David have in his view in verse 49 and 50?

## *Parallelism*

What is parallelism in Biblical poetry?

What is a rhyme?

How is biblical parallelism like a “thought rhyme”?

### **Here are three famous interpretations:**

-“The practice of saying the same thing twice in different words.” (C. S. Lewis)

-“A, and what’s more, B.” (James Kugel)

-“How much more so.” (Robert Alter)

### **Parallelism in Biblical Poetry**

Generally, biblical poets do not use rhyme or meter as many poets do. Instead, the poetry of the Bible is written in “thought rhyme” — two or more consecutive lines that express similar thoughts in different ways, though usually in similar grammatical form. We call this construction “parallelism.”

You’ll find two types of parallelism used most frequently in biblical poetry: synonymous and antithetic parallelism.

#### **EXAMPLE 1:**

“Save me, O Lord, from lying lips  
and from deceitful tongues.” (Psalm 120:2)

How does the second line relate to the first line?

This is called: \_\_\_\_\_ - The idea in the first part of a line/verse is repeated in the second part of a line or in a following verse.

Why would a poet use this device?



**EXAMPLE 2:**

“For the Lord guards the way of the just,  
but the way of the wicked leads to doom.” (Psalm 1:6)

How does the second line relate to the first line?

This is called: \_\_\_\_\_ - The idea in the first part of a line/verse is the opposite of the idea in the second part of a line or opposite of the idea in another verse.

Why would a poet use this device?

**Directions:** Annotate by summarizing each stanza. Underline examples of inclusions/envelopes in the following psalm.

18 I will love You, O LORD, my strength.

<sup>2</sup>The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer;  
My God, my strength, in whom I will trust;  
My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

<sup>3</sup>I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised;  
So shall I be saved from my enemies.

<sup>4</sup>The pangs of death surrounded me,  
And the floods of ungodliness made me afraid.

<sup>5</sup>The sorrows of Sheol surrounded me;  
The snares of death confronted me.

<sup>6</sup>In my distress I called upon the LORD,  
And cried out to my God;  
He heard my voice from His temple,  
And my cry came before Him, even to His ears.

<sup>7</sup>Then the earth shook and trembled;  
The foundations of the hills also quaked and were shaken,  
Because He was angry.

<sup>8</sup>Smoke went up from His nostrils,  
And devouring fire from His mouth;  
Coals were kindled by it.

<sup>9</sup>He bowed the heavens also, and came down  
With darkness under His feet.

<sup>10</sup>And He rode upon a cherub, and flew;  
He flew upon the wings of the wind.

<sup>11</sup>He made darkness His secret place;  
His canopy around Him was dark waters  
And thick clouds of the skies.

<sup>12</sup>From the brightness before Him,  
His thick clouds passed with hailstones and coals of fire.

<sup>13</sup> The LORD thundered from heaven,  
And the Most High uttered His voice,  
Hailstones and coals of fire. <sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>14</sup> He sent out His arrows and scattered the foe,  
Lightnings in abundance, and He vanquished them.

<sup>15</sup> Then the channels of the sea were seen,  
The foundations of the world were uncovered  
At Your rebuke, O LORD,  
At the blast of the breath of Your nostrils.

<sup>16</sup> He sent from above, He took me;  
He drew me out of many waters.

<sup>17</sup> He delivered me from my strong enemy,  
From those who hated me,  
For they were too strong for me.

<sup>18</sup> They confronted me in the day of my calamity,  
But the LORD was my support.

<sup>19</sup> He also brought me out into a broad place;  
He delivered me because He delighted in me.

<sup>20</sup> The LORD rewarded me according to my righteousness;  
According to the cleanness of my hands  
He has recompensed me.

<sup>21</sup> For I have kept the ways of the LORD,  
And have not wickedly departed from my God.

<sup>22</sup> For all His judgments were before me,  
And I did not put away His statutes from me.

<sup>23</sup> I was also blameless before Him,  
And I kept myself from my iniquity.

<sup>24</sup> Therefore the LORD has recompensed me according to my righteousness,  
According to the cleanness of my hands in His sight.

<sup>25</sup> With the merciful You will show Yourself merciful;  
With a blameless man You will show Yourself blameless;

<sup>26</sup> With the pure You will show Yourself pure;  
And with the devious You will show Yourself shrewd.

<sup>27</sup> For You will save the humble people,  
But will bring down haughty looks.

<sup>28</sup> For You will light my lamp;  
The LORD my God will enlighten my darkness.

<sup>29</sup> For by You I can run against a troop,  
By my God I can leap over a wall.

<sup>30</sup> As for God, His way is perfect;  
The word of the LORD is proven;  
He is a shield to all who trust in Him. ...

## *Reading 12*

**Reading:** 1 Chronicles 28

**Questions of Bible Reading:**

1. Who did David gather to hear his charge? (1)
2. How did David tell Solomon to serve God? (9)
3. What was given to Solomon so he would know how to build the house of God? (11-12,19)
4. Who would help Solomon in the building of the house of God? (20-21)

## *Acrostic Psalms*

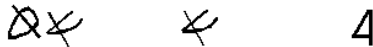
We can learn the *aleph-bet* by examining various Biblical passages which are written as acrostics (alphabetically ordered verses and each first word commencing with each Hebrew letter of the alphabet in turn, from 1 through to 22).

Acrostic passages occur in the following Psalms:	
Psalm 9	2 verses for each of the 22 Hebrew consonants
Psalm 10	2 verses each
Psalm 25	1 verse each
Psalm 34	1 verse each
Psalm 37	2 verses each
Psalm 111	½ verse each
Psalm 112	½ verse each
Psalm 119	8 verses each
Psalm 145	1 verse each

### Picture Letters

The first Hebrew letter, '*Aleph*', originally represented an ox head and was similarly portrayed in Phoenician and Ancient Greek as well as Ancient Hebrew.

Phoenician    Ancient Hebrew    Ancient Greek



The name for the first letter, '*âleph*' is the same as the Hebrew word '*eleph*' which signifies an ox. This probably derives from two ideas, firstly from '*el*' which means 'strong' or 'mighty' and as such is used of God, hence of the ox because of its strength.

### THE CHARACTERS AND THEIR PICTURE-IMAGES

Character	Name	Original Picture Symbolism
א	<i>'Aleph</i>	ox head, yoke, learn
ב	<i>Beth</i>	house, tent
ג	<i>Gimel</i>	camel's neck, soul
ד	<i>Dâleth</i>	door, curtain to tent
ה	<i>Hé</i>	window, lattice
ו	<i>Wâw</i> or <i>vâv</i>	hook, nail, peg
ז	<i>Zayin</i>	weapon
ח	<i>Cheth</i>	hedge, fence, surround, gird
ט	<i>Teth</i>	serpent, snake, roll, curve
י	<i>Yodh</i>	hand (bent)
כ	ך <i>Kaph</i>	wing, palm (hollow of the hand)
ל	<i>Lâmedh</i>	ox goad, correction, learning
מ	ם <i>Mem</i>	waves, water
נ	ן <i>Nun</i>	fish (tadpole?), snake
ס	<i>Sâmekh</i>	prop, support
ע	<i>'Ayin</i>	eye
פ	ף <i>Pê</i>	mouth
צ	ץ <i>Tsâdhe</i>	fish hook? tool for cutting down?
ק	<i>Qoph</i>	axe, monkey, back of the head
ר	<i>Resh</i>	head
ש	<i>Sin, Shin</i>	tooth
ת	<i>Tâw</i>	sign, branded cross, mark, 'T'

Psalm 145

א<sup>1</sup> I will extol You, my God, O King;  
And I will bless Your name forever and ever.  
ב<sup>2</sup> Every day I will bless You,  
And I will praise Your name forever and ever.  
ג<sup>3</sup> Great *is* the LORD, and greatly to be praised;  
And His greatness *is* unsearchable.

ד<sup>4</sup> One generation shall praise Your works to another,  
And shall declare Your mighty acts.  
ה<sup>5</sup> |<sup>a</sup> will meditate on the glorious splendor of Your majesty,  
And on Your wondrous works.  
ו<sup>6</sup> *Men* shall speak of the might of Your awesome acts,  
And I will declare Your greatness.  
ז<sup>7</sup> They shall utter the memory of Your great goodness,  
And shall sing of Your righteousness.

ח<sup>8</sup> The LORD *is* gracious and full of compassion,  
Slow to anger and great in mercy.  
ט<sup>9</sup> The LORD *is* good to all,  
And His tender mercies *are* over all His works.

י<sup>10</sup> All Your works shall praise You, O LORD,  
And Your saints shall bless You.  
יא<sup>11</sup> They shall speak of the glory of Your kingdom,  
And talk of Your power,  
יב<sup>12</sup> To make known to the sons of men His mighty acts,  
And the glorious majesty of His kingdom.  
יג<sup>13</sup> Your kingdom *is* an everlasting kingdom,  
And Your dominion *endures* throughout all generations.

יד<sup>14</sup> The LORD upholds all who fall,  
And raises up all *who are* bowed down.  
טו<sup>15</sup> The eyes of all look expectantly to You,  
And You give them their food in due season.  
טז<sup>16</sup> You open Your hand  
And satisfy the desire of every living thing.

יז<sup>17</sup> The LORD *is* righteous in all His ways,  
Gracious in all His works.  
יח<sup>18</sup> The LORD *is* near to all who call upon Him,  
To all who call upon Him in truth.  
יט<sup>19</sup> He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him;  
He also will hear their cry and save them.  
כ<sup>20</sup> The LORD preserves all who love Him,  
But all the wicked He will destroy.  
כא<sup>21</sup> My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD,

And all flesh shall bless His holy name  
Forever and ever.

The psalmist, David, loved the Word of God with such intensity that he created beautiful pieces of music to describe the Word of God. Your assignment is to write an acrostic using the English alphabet and come up with a word or phrase that describes the Word of God. You may use resources such as a dictionary, thesaurus, or concordance to assist you with this assignment.

A-

N-

B-

O-

C-

P-

D-

Q-

E-

R-

F-

S-

G-

T-

H-

U-

I-

V-

J-

W-

K-

X-

L-

Y-

M-

Z-

## *Reading 13*

The Lord is My Rock, My Fortress, and My Tower

**Reading:** 2 Samuel 24

**Summary of Bible Reading:**

**Psalm:** 30

**Questions about the Psalm:**

1. What happened when the psalmist cried unto the Lord? (2)
2. For what should we give thanks? (4)
3. Although weeping may endure for a night, what comes in the morning? (5)
4. How long did the psalmist plan on giving thanks? (12)

# Psalm 30: Waiting for Security

Major corporations are laying off large numbers in the latest rage of downsizing. Those who have gotten a pink slip do their best to cover it, but you can see the pain in their eyes.

One of our basic human needs is security. In the end, if our security, in any area, is dependent on our own resources and abilities, then we must live in constant vigilance. How much better if the Creator of the universe were in charge of protecting us! In this psalm David relates the experience of looking to God for his security. He found it both a humbling and thrilling experience.

## Warming Up to God

Imagine that you have turned off the radio that is blaring away inside you. Sit for a while in the quiet. You may find that there are protests inside. What are your thoughts and impressions?

[Read Psalm 30](#)

## Discovering the Word

- No one knows for sure what the problem was, but from the words "depths," "healed," "enemies," "grave" and "pit" what possible dangers may David have been facing?
- Read the whole psalm again. List the range of emotions that is described.
- What insight into life does David gain by acknowledging that painful as well as pleasurable experiences come from God (v. 5)?
- How do verses 6-7 describe David's sense of dependence on God?
- What reasons does David present to God in favor of his deliverance (vv. 9-10)?
- Look over the entire psalm. How would you describe David's relationship with God?

## Applying the Word

- Difficult circumstances can cause us to reflect on the character of God. How have the circumstances of your life affected your relationship with God?
- David expresses some of the ups and downs of his life. Consider the last six months to year of your life and chart your ups and downs.
- Picture the Lord with you through the ups and downs of your life. How does it help you to know God is with you?

## Responding in Prayer

Give thanks to God for the ways he has been a help to you in the hard places of your life.

Read more: <http://www.ivpress.com/bible/study.php?study=176#ixzz3TKhbNaDs>







## *Suggested Timeline of King David's Life*

Of all the lives in Scripture, David's is the only one that is exhaustively examined from the time of his childhood to his death. It is an open book like no other. Even his state of mind is revealed in the Psalms, like a diary open to our review. How would our own lives look if subjected to this type of scrutiny? For that reason, we should be kind to the memory of David, recognizing in him many of our own failings and weaknesses, but also admiring his strengths and commitment to the Lord.

<p>980 BC The wife of Uriah gives birth to a son by David, his name is Solomon. – <a href="#">2 Samuel 12:24</a></p>	<p>992 BC David plans to build a temple for God. – <a href="#">2 Samuel 7</a></p>	<p>1000 BC Saul, along with three of his sons die in a battle with the Philistines. – <a href="#">1 Samuel 28:3-7</a></p>	<p>961 BC David dies. Solomon becomes king of Israel. – <a href="#">1 Kings 2:10-12</a></p>	<p>993 BC David finally reigns over all Israel and Judah. – <a href="#">2 Samuel 5</a>, <a href="#">1 Chronicles 11</a></p>
<p>974 BC During a battle against David's men, Absalom get himself caught on tree, he is then killed by Joab. – <a href="#">2 Samuel 18</a></p>	<p>1010 BC David is successful as a warrior in Saul's army that the king offers his daughter in marriage to David. – <a href="#">1 Samuel 18:21</a></p>	<p>1010 BC King Saul fires David from his court but makes him a commander in his army. – <a href="#">1 Samuel 18:13</a></p>	<p>1035 BC Believed to be the approximate period that David is born in the town of Bethlehem.</p>	<p>976 BC David leaves Jerusalem when he learns of his son Absalom's intent to overthrow him. – <a href="#">2 Samuel 15:13</a></p>
<p>1023 BC David serves as a minstrel in Saul's court after he is learned to be a talented musician. – <a href="#">1 Samuel 16:21-22</a></p>	<p>1020 BC The Philistines send their champion warrior Goliath against the shepherd boy David. David kills Goliath with a single shot from his sling. – <a href="#">1 Samuel 17</a></p>	<p>1005 BC With a chance to kill Saul, David spares the life of the man who had been trying to hunt him down in order to kill him. – <a href="#">1 Samuel 24</a></p>	<p>978 BC Amnon, one of David's sons is involved in a sin, and is eventually killed by Absalom because of it. – <a href="#">2 Samuel 13</a></p>	<p>978 BC A son of David, Absalom, conspires against his father by trying to draw the loyalties of the people from David. – <a href="#">2 Samuel 14 &amp; 15</a></p>
<p>982 BC While taking a break from fighting Israel's enemies, David sees the wife of Uriah, one of his soldiers. The woman was beautiful, her name was Bathsheba. – <a href="#">2 Samuel 11</a></p>	<p>972 BC The Philistines once again engage in battle against David and the Israelites. David is nearly killed by a giant, however, four giants were killed in the battle. – <a href="#">2 Samuel 21:15-22</a></p>	<p>1010 BC Jonathan, a son of King Saul, and David become the best friends and make an oath to one another regarding future generations. – <a href="#">1 Samuel 20</a></p>	<p>963 BC David gives Solomon and his other sons the responsibility of building God's temple as he had originally hoped he would. – <a href="#">1 Chronicles 22:6-19</a></p>	<p>1025 BC Samuel goes to the town of Bethlehem and anoints the shepherd David as the future king of Israel. He is between the age of 10-12 years old. – <a href="#">1 Samuel 16:13</a></p>
<p>982 BC David desired to have Bathsheba for himself and has an adulterous relationship with her. He eventually had Uriah killed. He is confronted by Nathan, a prophet of God, for his actions. – <a href="#">2 Samuel 12</a></p>	<p>961 BC David calls the people of Israel and Judah and formally hands over the plans for the temple to be built along with final instructions regarding his enemies. – <a href="#">1 Chronicles 29:1-25</a>, <a href="#">1 Kings 2:1-9</a></p>	<p>980 BC David desired to have Bathsheba for himself and has an adulterous relationship with her. He eventually had Uriah killed. He is confronted by Nathan, a prophet of God, for his actions. – <a href="#">2 Samuel 12</a></p>	<p>1000 BC Samuel the prophet dies. David meets Abigail and her husband Nabal. Nabal refuses to help David and his men. Abigail intervenes as David intends to do harm to Nabal. Nabal dies of natural causes, David marries Abigail. – <a href="#">1 Samuel 25</a></p>	<p>1008 BC David is threatened with bodily harm by Saul because of jealousy. He goes to Nob and receives the sword of Goliath from Ahimelech, a priest. – <a href="#">1 Samuel 21</a>. He then hides in the city of Gath, hometown of Goliath and pretends to be a crazy man. – <a href="#">1 Samuel 21:10</a></p>

