



Harvest Growing Deeper

A Disciplemaking Tool of Harvest Evangelical Free Church
(for personal and/or small group study)

Week of May 10, 2020

Psalm 139:1-24

Q: (vv.19-22) *This passage speaks of David's loyalty to God. The word "hate" essentially means to reject or choose against those who do evil and are God's enemies. In the NT, Jesus calls us to love our enemies and pray for them (Mt. 5:43-45). (v.19) We are to let God take vengeance against our enemies (Rom 12:9). Since we too were once enemies of God (Rom 5:8) yet Christ brought us back to God, how are we to respond to those who do evil in this world? Can we still demand God's justice yet still love and pray for their salvation and deliverance for God's glory?*

Q: (vv.23-24) *The Psalm begins with acknowledging that God knows all. It ends with a deep desire for God to continue to search our hearts, revealing anything wicked, so we can repent, find forgiveness and be cleansed by God. In humility, with a pure heart, David wanted to continue his intimate ongoing relationship with God. We often like to think of ourselves as better than we really are. How does this passage demonstrate an awareness of our own limitations and our need for God's daily leading in our lives?*

PRAY: (Pray the words of Psalm 139:23,24—personalize it!)

“Search me, O God, and know my heart;
test me and know my anxious thoughts.
Point out anything in me that offends you,
and lead me along the path of everlasting life.” (NLT)

In Jesus' name, Amen!

This Psalm, written by David, is intended to illustrate God's infinite knowledge, His presence and His care for each one of us. When confronted with the depths of God's pursuit and love for us, may we be moved to loyally follow Him and humbly submit to serve Him daily, all for His glory and honor!

Q: Our world is a lot less private than perhaps we would prefer. Whether it's the availability of cell phone cameras/video or government or shopping store security cameras, etc. Have you ever felt like someone was watching or listening in on your private conversation? How did that make you feel?

Q: (vv.1-6) These verses illustrate God's omniscience (He knows everything there is to know about you, me and everything else). How does David describe God's personal knowledge of him?

Q: (vv.1-6) What are your initial thoughts knowing that God knows **everything** about you all the time; your thoughts, the words you speak, your actions, character, attitude, etc.?

Q: (vv.5-6) David seems a little troubled by God’s all-knowing presence all around him, it is beyond his control. Yet it also seems to comfort him as well. God knows us perfectly (warts and all!) yet loves us perfectly. How does this encourage you?

Q: (vv.7-12) these verses illustrate God’s Omnipresence (He is everywhere He chooses to be at the same time). List some of the imagery described where God is found.

Q: Adam & Eve (in Genesis 3:8), and Jonah, are some examples of people that tried (but failed) to hide from God. How have you tried to “hide” from God (perhaps during a rebellious time, or a sad or confused or angry point in your life)? How did God meet you at that point in your life?

Q: Why is it critical that we choose to turn *toward* God in the midst of dark times in our life, rather than turn away from Him? (see Ps 16:11; Ps 23:4; Ps 94:19; Jer 23:24; Mt 28:20; Deut 4:29; Mt 7:7)

Q: (vv.13-18) These verses describe God’s creation and care for us while in our mother’s womb. Describe some of the illustrations listed.

Q: (v.14) what is David’s response?

(vv.13-16) *This is a key passage that clearly illustrates from Scripture that **all human life begins in the womb at conception** (NOT at birth as some say). Every baby is a recognizable person (Jer 1:5; Lk 1:39-44), has their own unique DNA, and is not simply another “part” of their mother, they are separate from their mother’s DNA). We are all uniquely created by God, in His image (Gen 1:26-27), each individual is precious to God, worthy of dignity and respect. There are no mistakes! Every life matters.*

Q: Knowing this, how does this encourage you personally that God, with great intimate care and detail, specifically created you and loves you deeply? How does this also challenge you to love others, with the love of Christ, even when they may be “hard to love?”

Q: (vv.17-18) David was astounded when meditating on the depths of God’s thoughts. Read Ps 92:5; Isa 55:8-9; Jer 29:11 and note your response as well.
