

Live Intimately with God

Psalm 139

Ryan Heard

Big Idea: Live intimately with God.

1) God is our all-knowing keeper

(vv. 1-6)

[1] O LORD, you have searched me and known me! [2] You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. [3] You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. [4] Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether. [5] You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. [6] Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it.

Psalm 139:1–6 (ESV)

- A. He knows everything we do
- B. He knows everything we think
- C. He cares for us

You have kept count of my tossings; put my tears in your bottle. Are they not in your book?

Psalm 56:8 (ESV)

How would your intimacy with God look if you lived with greater awareness of His complete knowledge and care for you?

2) God is our ever-present sustainer

(vv. 7-12)

[7] Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? [8] If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! [9] If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, [10] even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me. [11] If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night," [12] even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you.

Psalm 139:7–12 (ESV)

- A. He is always near

"All God's giants have been weak men who did great things for God because they reckoned on God being with them."

Hudson Taylor, Missionary to China

- B. He always sustains and leads us
- C. He is always in control

How does knowing God's constant presence and control encourage your intimacy with him?
How can you practice greater awareness of his presence each moment?

3) God is our loving creator

(vv. 13-16)

[13] For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. [14] I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. [15] My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. [16] Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.

Psalm 139:13–16 (ESV)

A. He made us by hand

B. He designed our lives

[10] For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:10 (ESV)

How does knowing that God lovingly handmade you and designed your life affect your intimacy with him?

4) Love God and hate unrighteousness

(vv. 17-22)

[17] How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! [18] If I would count them, they are more than the sand. I awake, and I am still with you. [19] Oh that you would slay the wicked, O God! O men of blood, depart from me! [20] They speak against you with malicious intent; your enemies take your name in vain. [21] Do I not hate those who hate you, O LORD? And do I not loathe those who rise up against you? [22] I hate them with complete hatred; I count them my enemies.

Psalm 139:17–22 (ESV)

How does knowing God's intimate love for you lead you to love him and hate unrighteousness?

5) Yield to God's sanctifying work

(vv. 23-24)

[23] Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! [24] And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!

Psalm 139:23–24 (ESV)

Is this the posture and prayer of your heart? Pray for it to be and seek to live intimately with God.