# AUTHENTIC

Pastor Ed Kemp MESSAGE NOTES Sunday, June 7

### Introduction

**ACROSTIC POEM** 

David's Prayer

A Psalm of David.

25 To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul. <sup>2</sup>O my God, in You I trust, Do not let me be ashamed; Do not let my enemies exult over me. <sup>3</sup> Indeed none of those who wait for you will be ashamed; those who deal treacherously without cause will be ashamed. <sup>4</sup>Make me know Your ways, O LORD; Teach me Your paths. <sup>5</sup>Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; For You I wait all the day. <sup>6</sup>Remember, O LORD, Your compassion and Your lovingkindnesses, for they have been from of old. <sup>7</sup>Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to Your Jovingkindness remember me, for Your goodness' sake, O LORD.

### David's Reflection

<sup>8</sup>Good and upright is the LORD; Therefore He instructs sinners in the way. <sup>9</sup>He leads the humble in justice, And He teaches the humble Hist way. <sup>10</sup>All the paths of the LORD are lovingkindness and truth to those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.

### David's Prayer

"For Your name's sake, O LORD, Pardon my iniquity, for it is great.

### David's Reflection

12Who is the man who fears the LORD? He will instruct him in the way he should choose. 13His soul will abide in prosperity, And his descendants will inherit the land. 14The secret of the LORD is for those who fear Him, And He will make them know His covenant. 15My eyes are continually toward the LORD, for He will pluck my feet out of the net.

### <u>David's Prayer</u>

<sup>16</sup>Turn to me and be gracious to me, For I am lonely and afflicted. <sup>17</sup>The troubles of my heart are enlarged; Bring me out of my distresses. <sup>18</sup>Look upon my affliction and my trouble, And forgive all my sins. <sup>19</sup>Look upon my enemies, for they are many, And they hate me with violent hatred. <sup>20</sup>Guard my soul and deliver me; Do not let me be ashamed, for I take refuge in You. <sup>21</sup>Let integrity and uprightness preserve me, For I wait for You. <sup>22</sup>Redeem Israel, O God, Out of all his troubles.

# So What?!

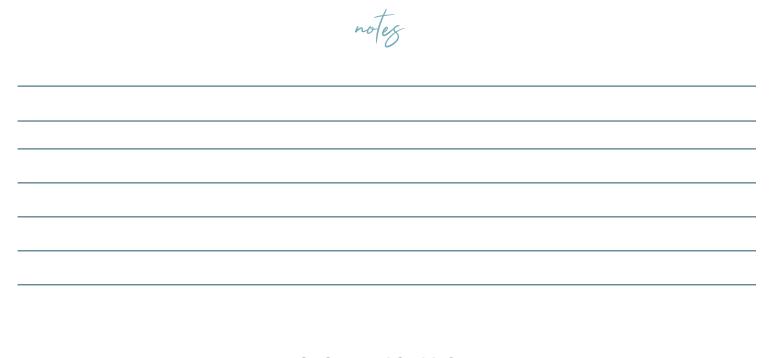
3 steps of finding God's will for your life:

#1. Admit your need for God.

#2. Develop the character of God..

#3. Commit your loyalty to God.

notes



## **GROUP DISCUSSION**

Describe one of the positive character traits your mom or dad had, faithfulness, diligence, compassion, generosity or self-control.

### Read: Psalm 25, Guidance

Psalm 25 is an acrostic Psalm, meaning each verse begins with the next letter of the Hebrew alphabet. Therefore it has 22 verses because there are 22 letters, because there are no vowels in Hebrew. It's like the old Nat King Cole song, "L. is for the way she LOOKS at me, O. is for the ONLY one I see, V. is VERY, very, extraordinary, E. is EVEN more than anyone that you adore can..." The reason the writer uses an acrostic is that he is emphasizing the whole and complete theme of his subject which is guidance. David wants you to know that you can depend on God for guidance. If you're looking for God's will Psalm 25 is a great Psalm to read.

The big idea of God's will is that, "God is more concerned with who you are than where you are." It's all about character and being who God designed you to be.

What is one of the first character traits that God worked on in your life when you became serious about following Him? What were some of the challenges of developing that character trait? Do you think you've made enough progress on that particular trait? What is the character trait that God is working on in your life right now? What are the challenges of developing that trait? Who do you know that is a great example of that trait?

Verse 11 is the center line of this acrostic. 11 For Your name's sake, O LORD, Pardon my iniquity, for it is great. Why would David at this very center point want to pray to God about his failures in developing godly character? When you're developing character what should be the % of success and failure? Why do you think David calls on God's name to be the secure place where your failures get forgiven?

Proverbs 18:10 says, "The name of the Lord is a strong tower, The righteous runs into it and is safe." What did a strong tower accomplish in Solomon's day? For what kind of safety is Solomon searching. If your sins are forgiven your pronounced righteous, I think Solomon runs to the tower of God's name for the surety of forgiveness. Do you feel, sense or accept God's forgiveness? Where do you find it hard to accept forgiveness? Where do you find it difficult to extend forgiveness to others? Is that a character trait that God might want to develop further in your life?

Family Time: Read Psalm 25:11 to your kids and ask them who would they most trust, someone in their family named mom or dad, or someone they had never ever met named (a name that is unknown to them so they can't picture anyone.) Ask them, "Why do you think you have more trust in me?" Use their answer to talk about how that's the same reasons we can trust God.