

Verses About Baptism:

Jesus Did it!

Matthew 3:13-17

Jesus Commanded it!

Matthew 28:19-20

The Early Church Practiced it!

Acts 2:37-41

A Symbol of Our Relationship with Jesus!

Romans 6:1-14

NOTES:



Groups Sermon Study Questions

DAVID'S PRAYER OF SURRENDER

March 12, 2017

Message Summary

If we desire to pray powerfully, we must gain a bigger view of our Creator and surrender ourselves to him. This week, we are examining one of David's prayers of surrender found in Psalm 139. It is a beautiful portrait of what it means to know God and to be known by God intimately.

Consider This

Describe a time when you have had to "ask for help." (i.e. for help with homework/work, asking for directions, maybe to overcome a challenging life situation) Was it difficult to do? Why or why not?

Read Psalm 139:1-6

1. In these verses, how does David describe himself?

2. How does David describe the LORD?

3. Verse 1 says, "you know me." What does it mean to be known by God? What impact does that reality have on you?

4. Consider verse 4. The LORD is described as hemming in "behind," "before," and "upon." What reality do these words express? What encouragement or comfort can be found in this reality?

5. If we are seeking a more powerful prayer life, why is it important to recognize we are known by God?

Read Psalm 139:7-22

6. Consider verses 7-12. How does David describe his relationship with God? What does that mean for us?

7. Look at verses 11-12. Is any aspect of our lives hidden from God? How do you react to this reality?

8. Consider verses 13-16. How well does God know us? How do you respond to this?

9. Do you find comfort in knowing that, as described in verse 16, God knows all our days? Why?

10. Consider verses 17-18. How does David describe "God's thoughts?" How do these verses capture how David sees God?

11. Consider verse 19-22. We've seen the nature of a relationship with God, both how God sees and knows us and how we understand God, but what change in discourse do we find in these verses?

12. How would you characterize David's requests to God?

13. Can we have a similar "honesty" in our prayers?

14. How does a right understanding of our relationship with God help us present our requests to him?

Read Psalm 139:23-24

15. In verse 23, David asks God to "Search me," and "know my heart," and to "test me and know my anxious thoughts." How do these requests express a desire to "be real" with God? How do we capture the same attitude?

16. In verse 24, David asks God to see any "offensive way" and to "lead me." How do these requests show a life submitted to God? How can we echo these requests in our own lives?

Action Steps

⇒ Continue to start your days with the prayer, "Search me, Show Me, Use Me," this week.

⇒ Baptism: An Act of Surrender

Sunday, March 26 is Baptism Sunday at Freshwater. Baptism is an opportunity to outwardly express the life change that comes when we put our faith in Jesus and live our lives for him, also known as believers' baptism. If you have never been baptized, we encourage you to take the plunge! Here are four reasons to be baptized. Take time to study at the verses on the following page.