

## **Weekly Study of Sunday's Message.**

**Sunday November 18, 2018. Psalm 23:5. "Breathe; Satisfied".**

### **A. Intro.**

Welcome to the weekly devotional that gives you some specific things to work thru from the message this past Sunday. Whether you were able to attend the worship service or not, this devotional is free-standing and you can still use it to help you dig deeper in your own spiritual walk.

Take as long as you need to dive into this material and feel free to share it.

### **B. Sunday's Message.**

Sunday was the third in our study of Psalm 23, and again Pastor Lamar just covered one verse, and brought so much truth and challenge to our daily lives. A little recap. Psalm 23 is a poem/song written by David that talks about; the nature of God, David's relationship with God, and what it means to live a *"With God Life"*. Lamar pointed out that this verse shifts the whole psalm from what God can provide, (resources) to actually living that *"With God Life"*, (relationships). And this verse not only talks about our relationship with God, but also our relationship with others.

### **C. Scripture.**

Lamar flipped how he covered the verse, so we'll read it as it is, and then talk about the second part of the verse first and then spend the rest of our time on the first part. So...read **Psalm 23:5** a couple of times thru, even in different versions, to get a feel and vibe for what David was saying, and then we'll unpack it.

#### **1. Blessing.**

***"My cup overflows with blessings"***.

So...let's have the 'blessings' talk.

**What does "*blessing*" mean?**

**How have you heard it used?**

**How does the church understanding "*blessing*"?**

If we happen to do a little word study on "*blessing*" what we find in Hebrew is- *gifts that come 'along with', (from...but not if you do it then you get this), kneeling*. Which means blessing most likely isn't some material gai...which is where we tend to go. But a life that comes from understanding who God is and what it means to actually 'acknowledge' and 'recognize' what a life with God looks like.

So let's look at what a blessing would mean in our daily life if we actually understand and practiced the scriptural definition of blessing.

**How is that different than how we tend to use "*blessing*"?**

**So how would we define "*blessing*" in this new understanding?**

**How would we talk about it?**

## **2. Table.**

Let's look at the first part of the verse. ***"You prepare a table for me before/against my enemies"***.

Again we'll examine deeper some of the words used in this part of verse 5.

**What makes people "enemies"?**

**If we are to be honest, how do we understand and accept our role in those relationships we tend to have with people who are our enemies?**

Lamar went into a deep study about what the table would have meant to David. The host extends an invitation to sit at the table, the guests are taken care of and welcomed with all of the rituals of acceptance like 'anointing'. The primary message of the 'table' implies the movement from just a sheep earlier in the passage, (a follower), to sonship, (a seat at the table was a big deal. Think about moving to sit at the BIG table at the holidays). This is a critical progression to maturity in David's relationship with God. David is no longer a sheep to be served, but his relationship with God has transformed to a seat at the table and the responsibility of a son.

The table ministry of Jesus is a repeating powerful example of the importance of elevation from just follower...to family. To the inner circle of trust and intimacy. AND...this is the really important part, having a table set in the presence of David's enemies wasn't God showing off he loved David more. But rather a call to sit down with those who you have issues with, who our world casts aside, who are on the margins of society, and do the work to bridge that gap and restore broken relationships. God was instructing David to reach out to his enemies and make peace. This was also the ministry of Jesus. You see this in his treatment of sinners and outsiders. The treatment and place of women. Giving special attention to the poor. Loving your neighbor. Loving your enemy.

God prepares a table (opportunity) for blessing, but it can only be experienced when we develop the maturity from wanting to being served to wanting to being seated.

**The challenge for us is to accept opportunity to change our perspective of people.**

David shares there are some things God won't let us run through, and there are some people that God won't let us run from.

Two of our greatest "sins" against each other can only be solved at the table...Ignorance and Arrogance.

**Define those two words considering this passage?**

We are called to *"sit at God's table with our enemies"*.

**What does it look like to do this?**

**What do we have to understand to be able to do this?**

**What must we do, how do we prepare ourselves, to do this well?**

So how do we do this well?

Care about what others care about.

**The overflowing cup begins when we stop overlooking and over talking each other. We are most satisfied in life when we slow down and sit down long enough to become sensitive to the needs of those around me.**