Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: DANGEROUS PRAYERS Message: Part 1 – Search Me March 11, 2018

Connect & Pray (20min)

*Icebreaker: What is 1 Thing you are looking forward to this March?

*Opening Prayer: Let's begin our time together with Praise & Thanks to GOD. [Use short sentence prayer]

1. <u>DECLARE</u> – The Character and Works of God. (4min)

*Read Hebrews 13:8 & Revelation 1:4-8

*JESUS, Today I Feel ______ BUT YOU are Always ______.

2. <u>LISTEN</u> – To the Voice of our Shepherd. (3min)

*Read <u>John 10:3-4</u>

- *JESUS, Is there anything that You want to say to me, remind me of, convict me of, encourage me in?
- 3. ASK Our Good Shepherd. (3min)
- *Read Psalm 23

*JESUS -----> please GUIDE ______.

- > please PROTECT_____
- > please HEAL ______.
- > please PROVIDE _____

Sunday Message Feedback (45min)

*Speaker: Pastor Shawn Vandop.

- a. What are 1 or 2 Things that come to mind when you hear the word <u>DANGEROUS</u>?
 b. What is the most Dangerous Thing that you've ever done, or found yourself in the middle of?
- 2. Message Feedback: What jumped out to you from Sunday's Message?
- One of the Values (written on our walls...) that we want to grow in at Main Street Church is: We are whole life, faith filled, all in RISK TAKERS. We'll never insult God with small thinking & safe living. *Pastor Shawn introduced us to a Dangerous Prayer in Scripture that King David prayed – "<u>SEARCH ME</u>." *Have you ever thought of Prayer as a "dangerous" thing? & Why?
- 4. The <u>SEARCH ME Prayer</u> is found in <u>Psalm 139:23-24</u>.

Take a moment to **read** the entire chapter of **Psalm 139** and then discuss the following questions.

- a. Does anything catch your attention in this passage of Scripture? Discuss
- b. Read Psalm 139:1-6. In this first section which features of daily life does David describe?



- **c.** How often do you think about or sense God during your day? Which time of day do you typically find yourself <u>more</u> engaged with, or aware of God's presence? *Morning, Afternoon or Evening.*
- d. What has helped, or what would help you to be more aware of His presence?
- e. How does it make you feel to know that God knows our every thought, word and deed? Discuss.
- f. Read verses 7-12. Why would David want to "flee from God's presence?"
- How does it make you feel to know <u>God is everywhere</u>? Why do we use "darkness" to hide ourselves? How does the discovery in verse 12 change your perspective on being in the dark?

g. Read verses 13-18. David now praises God for his creation and birth. What do you think he means when he says, *"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made"*? Discuss.

5. Read verses 23-24.

- **a.** Why do we have to invite God to search our hearts? Why can't we just search them on our own?
- **b.** Do you remember what Pastor Shawn said about <u>our hearts</u>? (**Read <u>Jeremiah 17:9</u>**) How has this been true in your own life?

c. Read 139:23b. Pastor Shawn said, "*What I fear the most is usually where I'm trusting God the least.*" What is making you anxious or afraid right now? How can you begin to trust God with this fear?

- 6. Pastor Shawn talked about the difference between <u>Temptation, Trials and Testing</u> (see below). How have you experience the testing of God in your life, resulting in Him revealing an issue in your heart?
 - <u>TEMPTATION</u> FROM SATAN USED TO **RUIN** OUR LIVES
 - <u>TRIALS</u> FROM GOD USED TO **REFINE** US
 - <u>TESTING</u> FROM GOD USED TO **REVEAL** TO US WHAT IS IN OUR HEART.

7. What might happen to you personally if you began to pray Psalm 139:23-24 prayer daily?

Application & Prayer (15min)

Read <u>James 5:16</u>. This verse points out that we confess to God for forgiveness and we confess to others for healing. Is there anything that you need God to "point out in you that is offensive to Him?"

Take 2min (silently) to invite the Holy Spirit to show you if there is anything in your life that He wants you to confess and repent of. After He shows you ask and pray that the Lord would "lead you along the path of everlasting life."

Make Psalm 139:23-24 your prayer this week. Take some time to memorize it. As you memorize and meditate on it, ask yourself these three questions:

>> What is God telling me? >> What are other people trying to tell me? >> Where am I most defensive?

* **PRAY:** Break into groups of 3-4 or Men/Women to Pray for one another, based on your discussion.

Announcements

PRAYER SUMMIT

Sun. March 25. 6pm-7:30pm. Main Street Auditorium. Worship – Prayer – Communion.

GOOD FRIDAY & EASTER SERVICES

Fri. March 30th at 10am – Including Communion. (Kids programs for Nursery-Gr.4) **Sun. April 1st. 9am & 10:45am.**

SET FREE Retreat

April 20&21. Friday 5:30pm-9pm / Saturday 9am-7pm. \$40/person. Register Online: <u>www.mainstreetchurch.ca/set-free</u>

BAPTISM SUNDAY

Sun. June 3. During the Morning Services. Info & Registration - www.mainstreetchurch.ca/baptism

PARTNERSHIP CLASS

Sun. June 3. 6pm-8pm - www.mainstreetchurch.ca/partnership