

Week Two: Separated (David)

OPENING:

- Are there certain kinds of situations, places, or activities which cause you to feel lonely? Explain.
- Background: If anyone in the group is familiar with the story of King David from the Old Testament, please give a quick summary of his life.
- How might a mighty king, with everything and everyone at his disposal, ever possibly be lonely?
- Read Psalm 25.

STUDY:

- What are some of David's concerns in verses 2-7?
- From verses 8-15, what does David know about God.
- What words and phrases in verses 16-21 reveal what is going on in David's heart?
- Can you currently relate to any of David's feelings or thoughts? How?
- How does David's focus change in verse 22. Why, do you think that is?
- How is the trust David expresses in verse one revealed throughout the rest of the psalm?

PRAY:

- How does your trust in God show in times of personal pain, loneliness, persecution, confusion, etc...?
- Take some time to quietly write your own psalm to the Lord. Start with the same words from verse one and then try to weave your current concerns in with the trust and hope that you would want to have in the midst of those struggles.
- After everyone is done, maybe a few people might be brave enough to read their psalm to the group?
- Prayer challenge: pray as a group using the words and phrases from Psalm 25!

Psalm 25

Of David.

*1 In you, Lord my God,
I put my trust.**

*2 I trust in you;
do not let me be put to
shame,
nor let my enemies triumph
over me.*

*3 No one who hopes in you
will ever be put to shame,
but shame will come on those
who are treacherous
without cause.*

*4 Show me your ways, Lord,
teach me your paths.*

*5 Guide me in your truth and
teach me,
for you are God my Savior,
and my hope is in you all
day long.*

*6 Remember, Lord, your great
mercy and love, for they are
from of old.*

*7 Do not remember the sins
of my youth
and my rebellious ways;
according to your love
remember me,
for you, Lord, are good.*

*8 Good and upright is the
Lord;*

*therefore he instructs
sinners in his ways.*

*9 He guides the humble in
what is right
and teaches them his way.*

*10 All the ways of the Lord
are loving and faithful
toward those who keep the
demands of his covenant.*

*11 For the sake of your name,
Lord,
forgive my iniquity, though
it is great.*

*12 Who, then, are those who
fear the Lord?*

*He will instruct them in the
ways they should choose.**

*13 They will spend their days
in prosperity,
and their descendants will
inherit the land.*

*14 The Lord confides in those
who fear him;
he makes his covenant
known to them.*

*15 My eyes are ever on the
Lord,
for only he will release my
feet from the snare.*

*16 Turn to me and be
gracious to me,
for I am lonely and
afflicted.*

*17 Relieve the troubles of my
heart
and free me from my
anguish.*

*18 Look on my affliction and
my distress
and take away all my sins.*

*19 See how numerous are my
enemies
and how fiercely they hate
me!*

*20 Guard my life and rescue
me;
do not let me be put to
shame,
for I take refuge in you.*

*21 May integrity and
uprightness protect me,
because my hope, Lord,* is
in you.*

*22 Deliver Israel, O God,
from all their troubles!*

Footnotes:

***Psalm 25:1** This psalm is an acrostic poem, the verses of which begin with the successive letters of the Hebrew alphabet.

***Psalm 25:12** Or ways he chooses

***Psalm 25:21** Septuagint; Hebrew does not have Lord.