

Prayer – Its life changing! Psalm 27

Life is for sharing! (Psalm 27: 1 – 6)

- Relationship enjoyed
- Dependence – ‘If you , like Jesus, know you can’t do life on your own, prayer makes complete sense’ Paul Miller A praying life
- Relationship spoiled – When evil men, When my enemies, though an army besiege me
 - Slander or outright attack (1 Samuel 21 - 23)

God’s presence (vv4 – 6) – Relationship at its best

- I ask, I seek
- ‘I will sacrifice with shouts of joy’
- ‘I will sing and make music to the Lord’

Hearts and lives need changing (Psalm 27: 7 – 9)

- ‘My heart says of you’
- David will not give up! Your face O Lord will I seek.
 - He exercises trust even when rescue seems impossible.
 - He clings to the relationship with his Heavenly Father

Teach me how to live (vv 10 – 12)

- Parents under threat – taken to Moab! (1 Samuel 22)
- Help me to respond well – don’t let me become like my enemies.

It takes time (Psalm 27: 13 – 14)

- I am confident of this!
- The patience sandwich [Wait – Be strong and take heart – Wait]

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Digging Deeper

1. As we start this series on prayer, what would you want to:
 - a. Learn about prayer?
 - b. Experience?
 - c. Change in your prayer life?
2. Read through 1 Samuel 21 – 23 quickly to get an understanding of the possible background to this Psalm.
 - a. What sort of things do you think Saul and his people were saying about David?
 - b. Have you thought about how you use social media? How do we make steps to be aware of others in what we post?
3. 'If you , like Jesus, know you can't do life on your own, prayer makes complete sense'(Paul Miller A praying Life') How true is this and how much does your life reflect a dependence like this in:
 - a. Your relationships?
 - b. Your money?
 - c. Your use of time?
 - d. Your work life?
 - e. Your activities and involvement in church?
4. When were you last 'still' in God's presence? How do we 'Be still and know God's presence'? What are the benefits?
5. 'Teach me your ways' – David knows he needs to react in a different way to this situation than he wants to. His relationship with God makes a difference to his actions. In what ways is your prayer life changing you?
6. What can I do this week to enjoy God's presence more?