

Week of July 5, 2021: Psalm 27



Discussion Questions Set #1

“The LORD is my light and my salvation— whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life— of whom shall I be afraid? When the wicked advance against me to devour me, it is my enemies and my foes who will stumble and fall. Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then I will be confident.” (Psalm 27:1-3)

“The LORD who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine.” (1 Samuel 17:37)

“The Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.” (2 Timothy 1:7)

1. David expresses great confidence in God’s protective/rescuing presence with him. Why is this foundational understanding of God so important in the life of the follower of Jesus?
2. David’s confidence in God can sometimes seem brash. How does 2 Timothy 1:7 give shape to the confidence the follower of Jesus ought to have? What is the interaction between power, love and self-discipline?
3. When you think of David’s descriptions of God (as light, salvation and a stronghold) in vs. 1, do you experience a similar knowledge of God? Discuss the significance of David’s descriptions of God as:
 - a. his light
 - b. his salvation
 - c. the stronghold of his life

Discussion Questions Set #2

“One thing I ask from the LORD, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple.” (Psalm 27:4)

“You seek the LORD your God, you will find him if you seek him with all your heart and with all your soul.” (Deuteronomy 4:29)

“Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.” (James 2:17)

“I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD” (Psalm 27:14).

1. In sermon, it was suggested that David’s one thing was to pursue “eternal relationally intimate proximity to God”. Why is having a “one thing” important in following Jesus?
2. David seems to suggest that an ongoing seeking of God is an aim in his life. Why is a commitment to an ongoing seeking of God important in the life of a follower of Jesus? What practical implications do this have upon such a life?
3. When you think of the description of David’s one thing, what ideas come to mind? What shape might a commitment to this give one’s life?
4. Psalm 27 reveals that David both requests this end and pursues this end, melding, as is common in scripture, the ideas of faith and works. Why is it important to understand that “eternal relationally intimate proximity to God” involves both faith and works? How is it an act of faith? How is it a work?
5. In vs. 14, David expresses a great confidence in accomplishing his one thing. What do you envision the balance between “waiting for the Lord” and “being strong and taking heart” looks like? How does this interact with the faith and works interaction?

Discussion Questions Set #3

“Do not reject me or forsake me, God my Savior. Though my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will receive me. Teach me your way, LORD; lead me in a straight path because of my oppressors.” (Psalm 27:9-11)

In sermon, it was suggested that seeking God involves three practices/attitudes: humble submission, a teachable spirit and a willingness to follow.

1. How do each of these attitudes practices affect our active seeking of God?
2. What practical applications do you see in your life by understanding these practices?
3. What barriers exist to seeing such things accomplished in one’s life?