

Keeping it real by Going Deeper!

The Passage & The Message: Psalm 118 – God is Good, His Steadfast Love Endures Forever

Getting Started:

1. What **Stood** out to you?

What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be most helpful, or eye-opening?

2. What **Puzzled** you?

Did anything in this verse or message puzzle you, trouble you or cause you to ask questions about anything that you hadn't necessarily thought about much before?

3. What did you **Learn** about God and His people?

What did you learn from the psalm about the nature of God and the nature of His people?

- *God*

- *His people*

What are some stories you remember where God stepped in and saved his beloved people from imminent death at the hands of their enemies?

4. How might this **Apply**?

Does it mean that God doesn't love us if we go through times of suffering in our lives?

If not, how should we view times of suffering?

See also Hebrews 12:3-13

How would your life change if you had complete trust that "the Lord is for me" (v6), "the Lord is on my side as my helper" (v7), "I shall not die but live" (v17)?

How to the following 2 questions apply in the different spheres of life listed below:

(1) Giving thanks to God: what ways can you thank God for his goodness and love (v1, 29) –

(2) Calling out to God: what can you ask God to save you from, how can he grant you success (v25) -

a. *Within your marriage?* (If married or if not, with those you are closest to)

b. *Within your home?* (Thinking here of one's children, or others who live with you)

c. *Within the Fellowship with other believers?*

d. *Within your place of work?*

e. *Within your community?* (i.e. Friends, Clubs & Pubs, Sports, Social Engagements and Social service etc.)

f. *Within your own walk with Jesus?*

We all struggle in various ways, but if you're honest where do you struggle most in any of these areas and is there any growing awareness that might now be to affect your thinking and inform some new behaviours in your walk with Jesus as you seek to live your life out loud for His glory.

5. What will you **Talk** to God or others about?

The psalms are example prayers that God's people have been praying for thousands of years. This psalm also calls God's people to speak to God and to others.

- So what things are we taught to **tell others** - be they churchied or un- churchied, converted or un-converted. List these below.
- How can we say these things in a way that is real to us and will connect with others and not just a recitation of religious truths?
 - a. The Churchied (?)
 - b. The Un-churchied or unconverted (?) *VIP Note: this is the 'evangelism' question and application towards those currently outside of God's Kingdom of Saving Grace.*
- Lastly, think about the many ways that you answered question 4 and maybe bring some of these petitions and areas of struggle to the good God who loves you in prayer before you finish up today. This is one way of thinking and acting upon the above question (5) over "**what will you talk to God about**" from this psalm.

Grace and Peace to you as we 'Keep it real by Going Deeper' by taking both God's, and our concerns to Him through prayer.