

Week 46– Questions to Consider

Psalm 129 ~ Psalm 130 ~ Psalm 131 ~ Proverbs 27

Small Group Warm Up Question:

What sins do you see as dominating in popularity today?
How can we best respond in truth and love?

1. Psalm 129 describes the confidence Israel can have in God, based on their past experiences of deliverance from those who hate them. How has God grown your confidence in Him since you first became a Christian?
2. How does the Psalmist describe his suffering? What are some ways you see Christians being “afflicted” today?
3. How does the Psalmist pray for deliverance? How can we pray for deliverance of the Christians who are being persecuted today?
4. What does it feel like to be in the “depths” or low places in life? Psalm 130 begins with a plea for God to pay attention and listen to their prayer for relief. Do we pray this way? Should we pray this way? Why or why not?
5. Read Psalm 130:3-4. How would you summarize or restate the point the Psalmist is making?
6. How would you define “hope”? What does the phrase, “don’t get your hopes up” mean or imply? Why can the Psalmist so confidently claim to be waiting and hoping in the Lord? How can we gain and maintain a similar confidence in the Lord? How does such a confidence change your perspective and attitude?
7. What does the writer do to keep himself calm and relaxed? (Psalm 131:1) What sort of things in life get you worked up or anxious? How do you try to calm yourself? What steps could you take to minimize your anxiety and calm your soul?
8. Why is a young infant at peace in its mother’s presence? How can we have such peace in the midst of so much chaos in life? Why is this peace described as a forever peace? (Psalm 131:2-3)
9. What is your favorite truth from Proverbs 27? Why?
10. What are some ways we “boast about tomorrow”? Why does God warn us not to do that? (Proverbs 27:1)
11. What are ways you see people praise themselves today? Why is that dangerous? Why do people do that? What are ways to protect ourselves from that temptation? (Proverbs 27:2)
12. Why is “open rebuke” better than “hidden love”? How can we apply this to our lives? (Proverbs 27:5)

More questions @ www.southfork.church/psalms-proverbs-discussion-guide

www.TrustworthyWord.com

www.Bible.video

Looking to Be Grateful How to Have an “Attitude of Gratitude”

Psalm 129-131 (ESV)

**Complaining is a Choice:
Looking for What Is E_____.**

**Thankfulness is a Choice:
Looking for What Is G_____.**

How to Have an “Attitude of Gratitude”

1) E_____ God in Salvation - Thankfulness is an Evidence of Salvation

- Romans 1:21 “For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.”

2) Search the Scriptures to Change Your Mind - Renewed Perspective

- Ephesians 4:22–24 “to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, [23] and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, [24] and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.”
- Romans 12:2 “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

3) G_____ Your Heart from Negativity & Complaining

- Philippians 2:14 “Do all things without grumbling or disputing”

November 19, 2023

4) Focus on What Is Good

- Philippians 4:8 "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things."
- 1 Thess 3:9 "for what thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God"

5) K_____ the Source of All Goodness

- James 1:17–18 "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. [18] Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures."

6) Thank God with Your...

a) H_____

- Psalm 9:1 "I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart" (Psalm 86:12, 111:1, 138:1)
- Colossians 3:15–16 "And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God."

b) Voice

- Psalm 26:7 "proclaiming thanksgiving aloud, and telling all your wondrous deeds."
- Ephesians 5:4 "Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving."

c) Songs & P_____ with Your Church Family

- Psalm 69:30 "I will praise the name of God with a song; I will magnify him with thanksgiving."
- Psalm 95:2 "Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!"

d) Prayers

- 1 Timothy 2:1 "First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, & thanksgivings be made for all people"
- Colossians 4:2 "Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving."
- Philippians 4:5–6 "The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."

e) G_____

- Psalm 56:12 "I must perform my vows to you, O God; I will render thank offerings to you."
- Psalm 54:6 "With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you; I will give thanks to your name, O LORD, for it is good."
- Psalm 107:22 "let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving, and tell of his deeds in songs of joy!"

f) Living

- 1 Thessalonians 5:18 "give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

7) Thank God Specifically & S_____

An Example of Thanksgiving from Psalms 129-131

- Endurance & Protection - Psalm 129:2 "Greatly have they afflicted me from my youth, yet they have not prevailed against me."
- Who God Is - Psalm 129:4 "The LORD is righteous"
- For a God Who Listens - Psalm 130:1 "O Lord, hear my voice!"
- For Forgiveness - Psalm 130:4 "with you there is forgiveness"
- For Love - Psalm 130:7 "with the LORD there is steadfast love,
- For Redemption - Ps130:7 "with him is plentiful redemption."
- For Hope - Psalm 131:3 "hope in the LORD from this time forth and forevermore."

This Next Week's Psalms & Proverbs Reading Plan:

Week 47: Psalm 132-134 ~ Proverbs 28:1-14

- **Hope & Purpose in Jesus:** www.southfork.church/jesus

- **Daily Verse by Text Message:** remind.com/join/sfbcdevo

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