

Westwood Baptist Church *Grounded. Growing. Going.*



Worship Guide for August 16, 2020

Sermon Notes

And God: Always Connected

Psalm 119: 41-48 [Waw]

One commentator says, “This amazing ‘waw’ section of Psalm 119 would prove revolutionary if only we would listen to it.” These verses are extraordinary in what they say. Yet what is said is done in an ordinary way, one that can be missed in many English translations. Each verse in this section begins with the Hebrew letter ‘vav’ (or ‘waw’ in more modern translations). This letter is a conjunction, often translated as ‘and’ or ‘also’ or ‘for’. (Sometimes it is left out altogether.) All eight verses are connected grammatically by the letter ‘vav’, and they connect thematically through the central truth we see in verse 41: *“Let your steadfast love come to me, O LORD, your salvation according to your promise”*. Alec Motyer puts it this way: “The opening verse (41) is a concise description of a converted person: one who has been confronted by the unfailing, committed love of God, and has benefited from the divine activity of salvation - all as described in the word of God.”

The seemingly insignificant “and” at the beginning of each verse reveals to us an eternally significant truth: the unfailing covenant love of God is “the additional ingredient at every moment and in every circumstance of our lives.” We know this because of what God has revealed to us in His “promise”, His “word”, His “rules”, His “precepts”, His “testimonies”, His “commandments”, and His “statutes”. Our lives will be radically and eternally changed when we can say with the Psalmist, *“for I find my delight in your commandments, which I love.”*

And God’s committed love comes to us in our salvation (v41)

....and God’s committed love gives us the word we need to face critics (vv42-43)

....and God’s committed love gives us the desire to be obedient (v44)

....and God’s committed love frees us to live for Him (v45)

....and God’s committed love emboldens us to proclaim His word (v46)

....and God’s committed love fills us with delight, love & desire to serve Him (v47-48)

Weekly Discipleship Guide

Sunday

In your journal, reflect on today's sermon by answering the following:

I never knew:

I was challenged:

I was reminded:

I was convicted:

A question I still have:

A truth I could share:

Know

Monday

Spend some time today doing the following:

Read the sermon passage again.

Select a portion of this week's sermon passage to memorize this week.

Write your selected portion and read it to yourself at least 10 times throughout the day.

Know > Be

Tuesday

In your journal, spend some time writing about the following:

Read the sermon passage again.

Write a prayer of response, guided by the passage.

(May include adoration, confession/repentance, thanksgiving, petition, etc...)

Write your selected portion of the Scripture several times to aid in memorization.

Be

Wednesday

Think about this week's questions for group discussion:

As you reflect on the passage and sermon this week, focus on the love of God that saves us (v41), and the provision of God through his word that provides all we need to live for him.

How does a focus on and ever-deepening understanding of God's steadfast love affect the way we live each day?

What is so important about v. 42 for our day? How does this verse address the confidence we can have when we face critics / opponents of the gospel?

How does life in Christ and living according to his word give us liberty, or free us to live a godly life? (v. 45)

Twice the psalmist says 'I love your commandments' (vv 47 & 48). What's the connections between our affections (what we love) and our conversations (what we talk about)?

Be > Do

Thursday

In your journal, spend some time considering the following:

What insights have you had while internalizing this week's passage?

How specifically will you seek to apply its truths in your home/workplace/life in general?

Do

*Use this guide to help you internalize this week's passage & message.

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