

# Westwood Baptist Church Grounded. Growing. Going.

Worship Guide for September 13, 2020

## Sermon Notes

### **No Man is An Island: The Witness of Faithful Suffering**

Psalm 119: 73-80 [*Yodh*] (pew Bible pgs. 513-514)

The Yud (Yodh) is the smallest letter in the Hebrew alphabet. When Jesus said in Matthew 5:18 *“For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished”*, he was referring to the Yud. This small letter begins each verse of this section of Psalm 119. This small letter is used to communicate to us several huge truths that are relevant to our lives today.

Our lives, our experiences, our joys and sufferings, all of these affect others. As the Psalmist considered his own life, specifically his own afflictions, he recognized they came to him from the faithful hand of God and thought of the impact and influence that had on others. He prayed these words: *Those who fear you shall see me and rejoice, because I have hoped in your word. Let those who fear you turn to me, that they may know your testimonies.* Psalm 119: 74 & 79.

The psalmist reminds us that our very lives, and everything that comes into our lives, comes according to the plans and purposes of God. As we go through this life we can look to God and His Word to gain understanding, hope, comfort, mercy, and love. When others see us trusting God in the midst of our suffering, they are encouraged, “they get joy through our courageous hope. When other believers see the power of the Word in our lives, it draws them together and deepens loving fellowship. Suffering, rightly met, creates rich community and friendship.” (Tim Keller – *The Songs of Jesus*, p. 313)

Your life is planned and purposeful; understanding this is foundational.

Your afflictions flow from God’s faithfulness; believing this affects others.

Your comfort is found in God’s love and mercy; this is his promise to you.

Your life is a validating testimony; pray for God’s people to grow through it.

# 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:*

What did Sunday's passage and sermon teach you about your own identity? What areas of your identity did the truths presented challenge?

How must we situate ourselves in order to be consistently reminded of and abide in the truth of v. 76? Are you situating yourself in this way? What could be hindering this?

Action step: Intentionally plan with another believer to get together for a conversation in the next week with the purpose of encouraging and praying for one another in the Word.

**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.

### Westwood Staff

**Gerald Hodges:** Lead Pastor

**Jonathan Taylor:** Associate Pastor

**Jim Fulp:** Counseling Pastor

**Jason Engle:** Pastor of Students  
& Discipleship

**Katie Austin:** Children's Ministry  
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### Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday

8:00am - 1:00pm

*Other times by appointment.*

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