



KING'S CHAPEL

Daily Devotional Guide

Thursday March 19, 2020

A - Approaching God – Start with Prayer

Psalm 119:97-98; 105 - *Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day. Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is ever with me. Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*

As you approach the Lord today, think about walking around your house late at night in the pitch darkness. You move slowly, you grope around nervously, unsure of where you're headed. Then you turn on a lamp, or a flashlight and the path ahead becomes clear again - you gain certainty! Consider how God's word might be that for you today.

B - Bible Reading, Study & Meditation

Psalm 37:1-6 - **1** Do not fret because of those who are evil or be envious of those who do wrong; **2** for like the grass they will soon wither, like green plants they will soon die away. **3** Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. **4** Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. **5** Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this: **6** He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn, your vindication like the noonday sun.

Look in God's Word

- What are 1 or 2 things you learn about God in this passage?
- Are there any commandments to obey? Try to write down 2 or 3 that stand out as most important.

Look in Our Own Lives

- What does this passage say about a need I might have in my own life right now?
- If I listened to God's promises in this passage how might my life be different today?

Look Outward Towards Others

- Where has God been gracious and generous with you? Can you name 2 or 3 things today? Who can you be generous and gracious with today in light of God's goodness towards me? What would that look like?

Helps for Kids

- The word **“fret”** means to be so worried about something that others can look at you and tell right away. Have you ever felt that way about something?
- The word **“envious”** means to want something someone else has *REALLY* badly like good looks, cool shoes, or the last chocolate donut.
- Why does King David say not to fret or envy what other people have? Or to feel that way towards people who boast about having those things?

Summary: “Fretting” is a common activity of our age. It is composed of worry, resentment, jealousy, and self-pity. It is dominant online and in social media. It chews us up from the inside while accomplishing nothing good on the outside. David gives 3 practical remedies. 1. Look forward (vs 2). Those whose main happiness is found in this world are living on borrowed time. 2. Look upward (vs. 3-5). Don't repress or vent your frustrations, but instead redirect them in prayer towards God. Leave your burdens in his hand (“commit”) and learn to find your heart's deepest desires in who he is and what he has done (“delight”). 3. Finally, get busy with the things that must be done today - “do good” (vs. 3). Self-pity can lead to cutting corners ethically. Don't add a bad conscience to a heavy heart.

Tim Keller - Songs of Jesus

C - Close in Prayer

- Father, sometimes it is so easy to brood, to think that I am getting a worse life than I deserve, and others are getting far better ones. But your son, Jesus, did not begrudge me a far better life than I deserve in your grace or his blood shed to secure it. Make me generous today to other people, especially to people in my own family. And Father, make me content in your great love. Amen.