



# KING'S CHAPEL

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## Daily Devotional - The Pursuit of God

June 11, 2020

### Approaching God

#### Read Psalm 107:1-2

*Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever! Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble*

**Opening Prayer:** - I give thanks to you, O Lord. I have experienced your goodness and know it is working in me; I have experienced your love and know it is changing me. Continue your work in me today as I read and study your word. Thank you, in the name of Jesus Christ, my Redeemer. Amen.

### This Week's Study: The Pursuit of God

***This week we are looking at the theme: "Pursuing God with Great Intensity."***

This week we are meditating on various passages around this theme and asking God to search and align our hearts so that knowing Christ might become our greatest treasure.

### Bible Reading, Study & Meditation - 1 Samuel 7:3-6; 12:19-25

**1 Samuel 7:3-6** - **3** And Samuel said to all the house of Israel, "If you are returning to the LORD with all your heart, then put away the foreign gods and the Ashtaroath from among you and direct your heart to the LORD and serve him only, and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines." **4** So the people of Israel put away the Baals and the Ashtaroath, and they served the LORD only. **5** Then Samuel said, "Gather all Israel at Mizpah, and I will pray to the LORD for you." **6** So they gathered at Mizpah and drew water and poured it out before the LORD and fasted on that day and said there, "We have sinned against the LORD." And Samuel judged the people of Israel at Mizpah.

**1 Samuel 12:19-25** - **19** And all the people said to Samuel, "Pray for your servants to the LORD your God, that we may not die, for we have added to all our sins this evil, to ask for ourselves a king." **20** And Samuel said to the people, "Do not be afraid; you have done all this evil. Yet do not turn aside from following the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart. **21** And do not turn aside after empty things that cannot profit or deliver, for they are empty. **22** For the LORD will not forsake his people, for his great name's sake, because it has pleased the LORD to make you a people for himself. **23** Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD by ceasing to pray for you, and I will instruct you in the good and the right way. **24** Only fear the LORD and serve him faithfully with all your heart. For consider what great things he has done for you. **25** But if you still do wickedly, you shall be swept away, both you and your king."

## Daily Study Questions

*In these two passages the prophet Samuel is addressing God's people. In 1 Samuel 7 he is calling God's people to repentance because of their hearts which are prone to wander. In 1 Samuel 12 he addresses God's people again calling them to pursue God above all things.*

- What are 2 to 3 things that stand out to you about how Samuel encourages and challenges God's people to pursue their God? Why?
- In what ways are our other pursuits truly 'empty' pursuits 'that cannot profit or deliver'? (1 Samuel 12:21)

## Application & Meditation

- How can I rejoice today in light of this passage?
- What do I need to repent of today in light of this passage?
- What requests do I need to make today in light of this passage?

## Close in Prayer:

*"If we do not take care that imperceptible, steady pressure of the all-surrounding worldliness, which is continually acting on us, will push us right off the foundation without our knowing that we have shifted at all. if we do not look well after our moorings we shall drift away downstream, and never know that we are moving, so smooth is the motion, till we wake up to see that everything round about is changed. Many a man is unaware how completely his Christian faith has gone till some crisis comes when he needs it, and when he opens the jar there is nothing. It evaporated. When white ants eat away all the inside of a piece of furniture, they leave the outside shell apparently solid, and it stands till some weight is laid upon it, and then goes down with a crash. Many people lose their Christianity in that fashion, by its being nibbled away in tiny flakes by a multitude of secretly working little jaws, and they never know that the pith is out it till they want to lean on it, and then it gives under them. The only way to keep firm hold of hope is to keep fast on the foundation. if we do not wish to slide imperceptibly away from Him who alone will make our lives steadfast and our hearts calm with the peacefulness of having found our All, we must continuously make an effort to tighten our grasp on Him, and to resist the subtle forces which, by silent pressure or by sudden blows, seek to get us off the one foundation."*

*Alexander Maclaren*

"Lord Jesus, you promise to keep us secure, that nothing can snatch us out of your hands. Keep my heart from subtly drifting today and help me to stay grounded in your love and mercy and grace. Amen."