

the Royal

MAKING SENSE OF THE BIBLE

"But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light." 1 Pet. 2:9

Week 18: Soul Food, Chapter 2

This week is a lot like last week, the only difference is it is shorter in study content and requires a little more transparency on our part. We will look at Psalm 35, the same Psalm that Pastor Miles examined this past week. The hope of this study is really simple:

1. How have you experienced injustice?
2. Did your reaction reflect one of prayer and forgiveness, or did you use vengeance of your own, rather than submitting to the Lord?

It sounds and is very simple in form, but the hope is that we examine our own hearts and come to the conclusion of whether or not we are letting God perform His own righteous judgments, or if we are doing them for Him.

Hopefully, by reading and studying this Psalm we can come to the conclusion of how we react to injustice and if it is on line with Scripture.

Isn't it fun studying Scripture!!!!

In Him,

Rock Church Small Group Team

Part 1: Opening/Recap Weekly Challenge/Small Group Sermon Discussion

Opening

- Open in Prayer
- Worship (optional)
- Recap Week 17 Homework
- Small Group Sermon Discussion

Recap Week 17 Weekly Challenge

1. Recite **Psalm 2:12**.
2. Discuss experiences practicing them Worship.

Small Group Sermon Discussion

1. Review the rules of "Soul Food," or Poetic language as a group.
 - ▶ Poetic language, as Soul Food, reveals the attributes and actions of God for us to **contemplate**.
 - ▶ Poetic language, as Soul Food, empowers our hearts and minds to **communicate** to God and like God.
 - ▶ Poetic language, uses various forms of Parallelism, where two or more parts of one sentence refer to the same subject in complimentary ways.
 - ▶ **Emotions:** Joy, sorrow, successes, failures, hopes, regrets, thanksgiving, confession, complaining, praise, petition, etc.
 - ▶ **Proverbs and riddles:** Wise sayings related to practical decisions on life.
2. Go around and discuss some of the group's favorite poetic books, and some chapters or verses that stand out.
 - ▶ Ex. Psalm 2, 25, 51, 66, 72, 101, or 111 (devotions for this week), or if someone has their own favorites.

Part 2: Read, Reflect, and Respond – Psalm 35

Read Psalm 35

The study this week will be a continuation of Psalm 35 as originally taught by Pastor Miles on Sunday. It will be simple in content, but allow for good discussion amongst the group. Just a few key points to keep in mind with your discussion this week:

Part 2: Read, Reflect, and Respond – Psalm 35

(continued)

Vengeance

- ▶ Vengeance is God repaying your enemies on your behalf.
- ▶ Vengeance is biblical, and God's responsibility.
- ▶ Vengeance is taken out on the unrighteous not the uncooperative.
- ▶ Vengeance will be given according to the righteousness of God.

Righteousness

- ▶ Righteousness is that which is morally right.
 - ▶ Righteous anger is anger that rises out of righteous justice and morality.
 - ▶ The righteous pray for their enemies and return good for evil.
- ▶ Read Psalm 35 as a group.

Reflect Psalm 35

- 1.** Describe a time(s) that you were the victim of injustice? What did you do?
How did you react?
- 2.** Read Psalm 35:1 as a group. How did your reaction confirm or contradict what David stated about vengeance in that verse?

Respond Psalm 35

- 1.** Psalm 35:13-14 talks about the praying and grieving for an enemy as if they were a brother. Have you ever done this? If so, were relationships restored? If not, why didn't you?

Part 3: Weekly Challenge

- ▶ **Scripture Reading Guide:** Go through the devotions that correspond with each day. These are given to everyone in their lesson plan every week. (August 30 – September 5)
- ▶ **Scripture Memory:** “Let those who delight in my righteousness shout for joy and be glad and say evermore, Great is the Lord, who delights in the welfare of his servant! Then my tongue shall tell of your righteousness and of your praise all the day long.” **Psalm 35:27-28 (ESV)**
- ▶ **Bible Study Tool:** Navigate through www.biblegateway.com and discover the great resources available for free for your personal gain.
- ▶ **Spiritual Formation Practice:** Each week we will introduce a “spiritual discipline” that each person can try to adapt to their personal devotion. This week is the **Discipline of Worship.**

Worship should never be limited to music only, but rather an expression of everything we put our hands and hearts to. The challenge this week is to worship our Lord in all you do. Constantly take time to pray and thank Him for His provision, grace, and never ending love for us. Hopefully while doing this you will experience the Lord in deeper ways than ever experienced before.