

HOPE FOR THE “WHYS”

PSALM 33

CHURCH GROUP SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS — JUNE 26, 2022

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 33 ESV

1 Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright. 2 Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings! 3 Sing to him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts. 4 For the word of the LORD is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness. 5 He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD. 6 By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host. 7 He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap; he puts the deeps in storehouses.

8 Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him! 9 For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm. 10 The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples. 11 The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations. 12 Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage! 13 The LORD looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man; 14 from where he sits enthroned he looks out on all the inhabitants of the earth, 15 he who fashions the hearts of them all and observes all their deeds. 16 The king is not saved by his great army; a warrior is not delivered by his great strength. 17 The war horse is a false hope for salvation, and by its great might it cannot rescue. 18 Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love, 19 that he may deliver their soul from death and keep them alive in famine. 20 Our soul waits for the LORD; he is our help and our shield. 21 For our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name. 22 Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

SERMON RECAP

Reasons to trust and praise God:

- The Power of His Word (Ps. 33:6-9)
- The Purpose of His Plans (Ps. 33:10-12)
- The Promise of His Deliverance (Ps. 33:13-19)

Responses to God:

- We Wait Confidently (Ps. 33:20)
- We Trust Gladly (Ps. 33:21)
- We Pray Expectantly (Ps. 33:22)
- We Rejoice Worshipfully (Ps. 33:1-3)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What does the passage say?

1. Read Psalm 33:1-22 aloud as a group and take some time to let group members share observations about the passage. Try not to move into interpretation of the passage or application of what you have read quite yet. Simply share what you all observe.
 - What do you hear in the Psalmist’s praise for the Lord? How and why is all of God’s work worthy of praise? (Ps. 33:1-5)
 - What is revealed about God and His Word? (Ps. 33:6-9)
 - What do verses 10-11 suggest about peoples’ plans compared to God’s plans? Who is blessed? (Ps. 33:12)
 - What is the repeated truth of verses 13-18? Where does trusting in God lead us? (Ps. 33:20-22) How would you explain or summarize this passage in your own words?

What does the passage mean?

1. We should live a life of praise to God. (Ps. 33:1-5)
 - How many reasons do you find to trust God in this Psalm?
 - Why is God worthy of our praise even when we're struggling?
2. God speaks to us through His Word. (Ps. 33:6-9)
 - Why can you trust in the power of God's Word?
 - What is awe-inspiring about God's Word - How does the Psalmist revere God?
3. God has a purpose and His plan is perfect. (Ps. 33:10-12)
 - What is God's purpose and plan?
 - What happens when people submit to God's purpose and plan?
4. God is individually, personally, and intimately connected with His people. (Ps. 33:13-19)
 - What does it mean that God is sovereign and in control? (Prov. 16:33; Coll. 1:17; Eph. 1:11)
 - What does it mean that God sees you - that He sees and knows your circumstances?
5. We should respond to God with hope and faith. (Ps. 33:20-22)
 - What specific three responses does the Psalmist suggest?
 - What should our overall response be to God?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

How can we apply this passage to our lives?

1. Where are you struggling and how can you praise God for the struggle?
2. How are you in awe of God's power? How does the power of God's Word inspire you? How does time in God's Word enliven you? Why can you trust in the power of God's Word?
3. Why does God appear to hold back good things from His people? What is God breaking apart, or shattering in you and why?
4. What is God's purpose and plan for you? Why is God's purpose/plan better than yours?
5. What does God see when He looks at you? How does God sustain and deliver you in your daily life?
6. How can you respond hopefully and faithfully to God even when you may not know 'why'?

RESOURCES

- [Global Outreach 2022 Prayer Guide](#)
- See the full 2022 Global Outreach Prayer Guide [HERE](#)