



Growth Group discussion questions for Psalm 18:1-19

God's Deliverance

Week of Nov. 12-15, 2017

1. NCC Q10: What does the law of God require?
A: Fourth, that on the Sabbath day we spend time in public and private worship of God, rest from routine employment, serve the Lord and others, and so anticipate the eternal Sabbath. Fifth, that we love and honor our father and our mother, submitting to their godly discipline and direction.
Memorize, meditate on and be ready to recite Leviticus 19:3.
2. For context, read Psalm 18 in its entirety and then carefully re-read Psalm 18:1-19 at least twice.
3. What principles or thoughts had the most impact on you from the message on this passage on Sunday, Nov. 12th? How were you specifically challenged?
4. What questions did the message bring up that you'd like to discuss?
5. What points of application did you take away from the message?
6. The first part of Psalm 18 gives the historical context for this psalm. Compare the striking similarity of 2 Samuel 22 with the words in this psalm. Why does it make sense that this song of personal deliverance entered into the songbook of Israel for the entire nation to sing? Why should all the people of Israel give thanks for the delivery of one man, David? Why should we give thanks for God's deliverance of David? (2 Samuel 22:1-51; 2 Samuel 7:12-16; Matthew 20:30)
7. Make a list of all the synonyms for God that David uses in verses 1 through 3. Meditate on these. How do these words convey the attitude that we should have towards God when we are in the midst of troubles and distress? (Psalm 91:4; Jeremiah 16:19; Romans 8:31-39)

8. David emphasizes the despair and distress that he felt. He says that it was like death itself was coming upon him. Can you relate to the gloom and anxiety that David expresses? Where did David turn his cries for deliverance? What can we learn from this inspired song about dependency upon God when we are in distress? (Philippians 4:6-7; Psalm 55:16; Jonah 2:2-7)

9. God's deliverance is painted with vivid pictures. What does this tell you about God's response to the prayers of His people? Why is it that God sometimes let's His people linger in distress before He seemingly responds in power and rescue? Can we always have confidence in God's deliverance? Why or why not?

10. How do the words of this psalm reflect David's attitude of thanksgiving to God? How is this psalm an example for how we should give thanks to God when we are delivered from our troubles? (Psalm 50:15; Revelation 4:11)

11. When you find yourself in the midst of affliction, do you have the firm confidence in your God as your rock and fortress? How do you interact with God when in anguish?

12. How do you respond to God when you find relief from your affliction? Do you always remember to give praise and thanksgiving to Him? Why or why not?

PRAY IN THE GROUP

- What has God impressed on you through this study? Pray that God would enable you to grow in any areas of spiritual conviction. Pray about specific needs of the people in your group.
- A national day of thanksgiving will soon be upon us. Pray that your mind and heart will be prompted to remember the thanksgiving that is due God. Pray also that you will have the opportunity to share your blessings with others. Prayerfully consider inviting an international student to share thanksgiving with you and your family.