



Purley Baptist Church

Discipleship Guide 5th April 2020

Psalm 118



This Week's BIG IDEA: *Though this was likely David's psalm, it was also Jesus' psalm. Here's what one wise person has said...*

"This is pre-eminently the triumph song of the Christ, He the ideal Servant, He the perfect Priest, He the Leader of the people. How much all these words meant to Him as He sang them on that night in the upper room." (G. Campbell Morgan)

CONNECT UP and IN: Fix your eyes on God and give him an opportunity to speak to you through his Word

- 1) What reasons are given in verses 1-7 for giving thanks to the Lord?
- 2) Look at verse 5. How do you respond to distress in your life? What is your gut reaction or regular habit when you are stressed out?
- 3) C.S Lewis said "Pain insists upon being attended to. God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our consciences, but shouts in our pains. It is his megaphone to rouse a deaf world." What do you think about this statement?
- 4) How does the writer of this psalm respond in his distress? Why would this be a good habit for someone to have in moments of crisis?
- 5) Look at verses 8-9. How does someone obtain this kind of confidence in the Lord?
- 6) Trust is a precious resource. How could you choose to give the Lord more of your trust in the next 24 hours?

CONNECT OUT as a group to serve the world around you

- 1) Share any examples from the previous week about how you have been able to 'love your neighbour from a distance'.

Heartbeat

Ezekiel 22:30 'I looked for someone among them who would build up the wall and stand before me in the gap on behalf of the land.'

This Easter weekend it is being predicted that the peak of the pandemic will hit our nation and therefore the NHS. Let's 'stand in the gap' on behalf of our nation and NHS, lifting our prayers to our loving Father God, knowing that our risen Lord Jesus intercedes for us.

Pray:

For wellbeing, strength and hope for NHS staff-for Consultants to porters, carers to catering staff.

For leaders, that they will have resilience, wisdom, courage and ability to encourage.

That the supply chains would keep open, and that all equipment that is needed gets through.

That people with the virus will recover quickly, without the need for hospitalization.

For families and friends anxious, in mourning.

That God will turn the tide of this virus, and heal our nation and our world.

Please remember our Church is being called to unite in prayer and fasting on Wednesdays.

Recommended resource

- **The unbelievable podcast:** Justin speaks to Christians leaders, thinkers and theologians from lockdown in the UK and USA with a variety of responses to Coronavirus.
<https://www.premierchristianradio.com/Shows/Saturday/Unbelievable/Episodes/Unbelievable-Lockdown-special-feat.-Nicky-Gumbel-Megan-Cornwell-Andrew-Wilson-Esther-O-Reilly-Will-van-der-Hart-and-NT-Wright>