

Beacon Week of Prayer 07-22

Living in His presence – “Seek his presence continually”¹

Psalms 139 has been a great source of comfort, inspiration and challenge for many people, especially at times of great need, vulnerability or opportunity.

The composer has come to the realisation that for the true worshipper there is no corner of space or time where God is absent and there is no part of my own internal universe of thought that is inaccessible or unknown to him. From conception to last breath. Both at home, in familiar places and far away in an unfamiliar or new environment. In all creation from the depths of the sea to the depths of space. God is there acting in his steadfast love to protect, guide and care for his loved ones. The only appropriate response is a trusting surrender,

*“Search me, God, and know my heart;
test me and know my anxious thoughts.
See if there is any offensive way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting.”* (Verses 23 and 24 in the ESV)

As we walk through times of great change, in our Church, in the world and perhaps in our own lives, we also need to be on a journey of drawing closer to God each day, knowing Jesus better, learning to live in his presence in the way this Psalm describes. You could read this Psalm **before** the week starts to prepare yourself!

Each day we will be focusing on a different Psalm.

These Psalms are not always as gentle and calm as Psalm 139, but written in the cut and thrust of everyday situations, disappointments, struggles and sometimes life-threatening events. We hope this will inspire you to seek God’s presence wherever you are this week and whatever you are facing.

We would encourage you to meditate on each Psalm, setting aside time to think on the meaning of each verse for you and for your relationship with the Lord. It might be helpful to write down key verses that encourage or challenge you and carry them with you through the day. Go back to them regularly and refresh yourself.

We look forward to coming together each evening at 7.30pm in the Beacon building to worship, share and pray together for one another, our community and our world.

¹ Psalm 105 verse 4 ESVUK

July 2022	Psalm	Situation what situation was this written in?	Living in His presence? What can I learn from this?	Key verses? What will I take into today?
MON 4 th	84			
TUES 5 th	27			
WEDS 6 th	63			
THURS 7 th	16			
FRI 8 th	73			