

Psalm 119 - Session 7: Verses 121-136

Matt Chandler

// Community Question

You watch the local news. "How could someone do something like that!" "What's wrong with them?" Why are we shocked when sinners act like sinners, or people do bad things?

// Scripture: Read Psalm 119:121-136

// Discussion Questions:

1. Matt told his conversion story when he was in high school.
As you reflect on your acceptance of Christ as Lord and Savior of your life, what changes did you see immediately? What changes did you see farther down the road?
2. How would accepting Christ as your Savior differ from accepting him as both Savior *and* Lord?
3. In New Testament writings, Christ is represented as the groom, and we, the church, are called the bride.
An old adage: "Some people reject Christ because his Bride is so ugly."
What does "the church" do that could be perceived as being ugly by non-Christians?
What are your relationships like with those who do not have a relationship with Jesus?
What are some of the obstacles that keep you from greater compassion for the lost?
4. How can you authentically reach out to people like those described negatively by David (enemies, insolent, etc.), especially those who do not obey God's law? David's heart softened, and he expressed compassion toward them as seen by him shedding tears. What must occur to have a softened heart like David's?
(Psalm 139:23,24)
5. Matt identifies David's two motivations for being used by God as loving God and loving others.
If a person were on trial for "loving others," what evidence would be presented to prove the charge? What evidence would be presented if you were on trial for loving others?
6. Think of how gracious and kind God has been to you. Matt said that our receiving God's grace is not the endpoint. The overflow of that grace should impact those around us.
How do we balance the tension between showing abundant grace to others yet also wanting truth, fairness, and justice?

// **Challenge:** As a result of this session, if the Holy Spirit has convicted you of a lack of compassion for the lost around you, bring that to light and confess it to God. Ask Him to give you a heart that breaks for the lost and a desire for them to know Christ.