

The Psalms Show Us the Way

By: Dan Jenkins

The book of Psalms allows us to see deep into the heart and soul of the man whose heart mirrored the heart of God. The words of these psalms and the depth of the spirituality behind them should become the words of our hearts. Early in this book, David said, “Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer” ([Psalm 19:14](#)). These words are followed by more than a hundred psalms where we see the words of David and look into his heart. When we read and meditate on these words from his mouth, they allow us to see his heart and then our hearts can become like the heart of God.

Almost every emotion of our hearts can be found in the psalms as we meditate on them. There are psalms written when David was so filled with despair that he was about to turn from God (Psalm 73), and there are those where David was filled with exaltation of the grandeur of being in God’s presence. Our emotions differ from day to day, and since almost all emotions are found in the psalms, there are psalms that fit each period of our lives.

To see this illustrated, take a moment to look at Psalm 63. David was dealing with those who were seeking to destroy him (v. 9), but instead of looking at them he looks toward God. The greatness of God is so far greater than what others were doing, and David fully saw this.

He recognized that God was supreme, and God

was personally concerned about him. “O God, You are my God” (v. 1). His soul and his body began early each day by praising God. He looked at God and saw his power and glory (v. 2). Every day David spent seeing His greatness—he blessed his name and lifted up his hands toward heaven (v. 4).

Though there were those who sought to destroy him, David ended each day mindful that God would help him. “I remember You on my bed, I meditate on You in the night watches” (v. 6). He never forgot that God had helped him in the past and he had lived “...in the shadow of Your wings” (v. 7).

Note carefully his words, “My soul follows close behind you” (v. 8). God was His guide who led him in paths of righteousness, but David did not follow him from a great distance. He was a close follower of Him whose right hand upheld him. He knew that ultimately he would triumph over his enemies (v. 10). He praised God with his lips (v. 3) and his mouth praised God with joyful lips (v. 5).

Should not we say to God, “Let the words of OUR mouth and the meditation of OUR hearts be acceptable in your sight”? David has shown us how to do this!

Your Life Is Not Just a Vapor

By: Selected

When talking about the brevity of life, we often quote [James 4:14](#), which illustrates life as “even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.” That is a vivid reminder of how fleeting life is. But the Bible uses many illustrations to emphasize the brevity, temporary nature and limitations of human life. Consider these, in addition to a vapor.

Life is like a swift runner. “Now my days are swifter than a runner; they flee away...” ([Job 9:25](#)). This is likely a reference to a courier who carries messages quickly from one place to another.

Life is like a soaring eagle. “My days are... like an eagle swooping on its prey” ([Job 9:26](#)). An eagle moves speedily and unstoppably upon its prey and then it's gone. If you blink, you miss it.

Life is like a weaver's shuttle. “My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle, and are spent without hope” ([Job 7:6](#)). That shuttle darts back and forth across the loom so quickly that it's hard to keep up, and before you know it, it's done.

Life is like a shadow. “Our days on earth are a shadow...like a passing shadow” ([Job 8:9](#); [Psa. 144:4](#)). A shadow does not last—it moves and then disappears quickly.

Life is like a flower. “His days are like grass; As a flower of the field, so he flourishes. For the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more... the flower fades...all fade as a leaf” ([Psa. 103:15-16](#); [Isa. 40:6-8](#); [64:6](#)). Life is fragile and temporary; eventually it withers away.

Life is like a handbreath. “Indeed, You have made my days as handbreadths...” ([Psa.](#)

[39:5](#)). “My life on earth is but a span”—just a few inches long like the width of my hand.

Life is like spilled water. “For we will surely die and become like water spilled on the ground, which cannot be gathered up again” ([2 Sam. 14:14](#)). The passing of life is irreversible—once gone, it cannot be recovered.

Life is like a tent. “If our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed...taken from me like a shepherd's tent” ([2 Cor. 5:1](#); [Isa. 38:12](#)). A tent is a temporary dwelling, quickly dismantled. It is not meant to last.

Life is like a mist. “You are just a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes” ([Jas. 4:14, ESV](#)). So, we finish where we began. A mist is only present briefly and then it disappears quickly. That is what life is like.

Contrast that with eternity, which never ends. What you are doing with your vapor now will determine where you will spend your forever. No wonder the very next verse emphasizes to live as “the Lord wills” ([Jas. 4:15](#)). Are you?



Upcoming Events

Summer Series Wednesdays: Adults will be in the main auditorium for the theme “It’s Who You Know” and the youth will be in the fellowship hall learning Bible stories about God’s animals.

TODAY: Monthly potluck luncheon. Bring a dish/dessert to share. We will also have our after-noon service at 12:45pm.

Sun. Aug. 10: Monthly youth devotional here at the building after evening worship. Boys bring drinks, girls bring desserts.

Area events:

Area events/details are posted on the bulletin board in the hallway. Please check them out.

Prayer List

Prayer Requests:

Members

Jeff Cannady, Jerry FitzSimmons, James Hicks, and Veronica Serenil.

Baptism

Miguel Ordonez Espinoza was baptized last Tuesday. Miguel has been studying with Guadalupe Escojido and they are neighbors.

EVANGELISM TRAINING

Sundays at 4 PM* at the church building throughout August

- August 3 – Pew Greeter Training *(12:15 PM)
- August 10 – Bible Study Leader Training, part 1
- August 17 – Bible Study Leader Training, part 2
- August 24 – Compassion Card Follow-up Training
- August 31 – Mentoring New Converts Training



Service Roster

Week of August 3, 2025

Sunday Morning

Scripture Reading..... Ken Dorries
Song Leader Jeff Cannady

Opening Prayer..... Barry Lehtinen
Closing Prayer..... Clifton Rutherford

Lord’s Supper & Offering

Bread..... Benny Horton
Cup..... Mike Atkinson
Offering..... Jake Jacobs
Assist..... Bryce Dolan
Assist..... Dan Fielder
Assist..... Willie Fossati

Sunday Evening

Song Leader Barry Lehtinen

Opening Prayer..... Kevin Sheeran
Closing Prayer..... Ken Dorries

Lord’s Supper & Offering..... Bryce Dolan/
Benny Horton

Wednesday Evening

Adult Class Bryant Siegel
Song Leader Luke FitzSimmons
Devotional Bryant Siegel

Other

Prepare Communion for Aug..... Rosales

Congregational News This Week

Birthdays

Mako Garcia..... Aug. 4
Thomas Cammock..... Aug. 5

If you have any prayer requests, upcoming events to be announced, or updates/corrections please contact our secretary, Nina Siegel, at (361) 573-0030 or email office.midtownchurch@gmail.com

Our Elders

Mark FitzSimmons
Ron White

Our Deacons

James Cammock—Evangelism
Lupe Escojido— Benevolence
Doug Jobes—Safety, Men's Encouragement &
Winter Youth Retreat
Kevin Sheeran—Worship Organization and
Communication
Bryant Siegel—Education and Finance

Our Minister

Cody McCoy

Weekly Reading

Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am
the light of the world. He who follows Me shall
not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."
John 8:12 NKJV

Service Times

Sunday Morning Bible Class.....9:00 A.M.
Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening Worship.....5:00 P.M.
Wednesday Bible Class.....7:00 P.M.

Attendance Records

Week of July 27, 2025

A.M. Bible Class.....60
A.M. Worship.....87
P.M. Worship.....59
Wednesday Worship.....50

*Financial information is located on the bulletin
board in the hallway.*

Supported Works

John & Carla Moore *Bible Land Passages*

midtown
CHURCH OF CHRIST

5901 N. Main
Victoria, TX 77904
361-573-0030

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