

Introduction:

Jamie says “The Psalms teach us what we can be sure of” – consider some things we have already learned as sure from these Psalms this summer.

What has God taught us through David? What has he shown us to be true about himself?

How have we seen Jesus this summer?

1 – Desperation over Prayer

Jamie says “David wasn’t shouting his desperation into the wind.” Yet often it can feel like we’re doing exactly that.

How does God answer us? What do we do when it appears our prayer doesn’t receive a “yes,” or worse, no answer?

Why does God sometimes appear not to give an answer?

2 – Desperation over Evil

The world is an evil place, despite, as Jamie reminds us, it is ruled by God. The Devil and his minions still hold sway, and malice dwells in the hearts of men.

What about Jesus gives us hope in this world? What was Jesus’ response to evil?

How can we model ourselves off of him?

3 – Jesus Knows Us

Jamie reminds us with John 10:27 that Christ knows his sheep. He watches over them and cares for them.

How does this reconcile with the often-common fact of suffering in Christians’ lives? How does God respond to suffering?

How does Jesus’ own suffering inform ours?

4 – Heart Trust

Jamie tells us that our heart can trust Christ despite our feelings or dispositions.

What does this look like? What does faith mean in this sense?

Are there examples in the Bible (Jamie mentions Job), or throughout church history, of men and women who struggled in this way? How can they be our example?

5 – Jesus the Shepherd

Sermon Notes for Reflection and Discussion: Psalm 28

Jesus calls himself the Good Shepherd in John 10. How does this inform everything we've seen so far? How does Christ's status as the Good Shepherd inform how we make sense of suffering?

How are we like sheep? Why is it important that we as sheep have a Good Shepherd?

Scripture Passage:

To you, O LORD, I call;

my rock, be not deaf to me,
lest, if you be silent to me,

I become like those who go down to the pit.

² Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy,

when I cry to you for help,
when I lift up my hands

toward your most holy sanctuary.^[a]

³ Do not drag me off with the wicked,

with the workers of evil,
who speak peace with their neighbors
while evil is in their hearts.

⁴ Give to them according to their work

and according to the evil of their deeds;
give to them according to the work of their hands;
render them their due reward.

⁵ Because they do not regard the works of the LORD
or the work of his hands,
he will tear them down and build them up no more.

⁶ Blessed be the LORD!

For he has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.

⁷ The LORD is my strength and my shield;
in him my heart trusts, and I am helped;
my heart exults,

and with my song I give thanks to him.

⁸ The LORD is the strength of his people;^[b]
he is the saving refuge of his anointed.

⁹ Oh, save your people and bless your heritage!
Be their shepherd and carry them forever.