

## **Introduction:**

Steve begins with a reminder that the Lord is true, faithful, and loving.

When are times you have seen this in your own life? How has the Lord been true, faithful, and loving to you?

## **1 – The Lord is Worthy of Praise**

Steve breaks the Psalm down into three sections. Verses 4-19 detail why the Lord is worthy of praise: his character (one of love and righteousness), his creation (beauty from nothing), his counsel (always wise), and his deliverance (from death).

How has God shown these statements to be true throughout history? In your own life? Why does God choose to deliver? To give good counsel?

Does he delight in his people?

## **2 – Waiting for the Lord**

What does it look like to wait for the Lord? What does that mean?

Is it difficult? Easy? Passive? Active?

## **3 – Jesus as Fulfillment of the Psalm**

Steve recognizes that Jesus is the fulfillment of the psalm; he is what we waited for and are waiting for, and he is the one who has the character of God.

How has Jesus shown his character, creative power, counsel, and deliverance *to you*? Through specific passages? Through a word? Through an intervention?

## **4 – Now, in the Present**

Steve encourages us to praise the Lord for this all now, in the present. To meditate on God and praise him.

How can we incorporate this into our lives? How might we take just an extra five minutes each day to meditate on God?

## **5 – Longing for Jesus**

Inside of all our hearts, there is the great longing for heaven. St. Augustine wrote, “Thou hast made us for thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in thee.”

How do people try to fill this void? Do even Christians feel it at times? How can we better fill up our hearts with the presence of God each day?

What does it look like when our hearts are at rest?

**Scripture Passage:**

**The Steadfast Love of the LORD**

**33** Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous!

Praise befits the upright.

<sup>2</sup> Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre;  
make melody to him with the harp of ten strings!

<sup>3</sup> Sing to him a new song;  
play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.

<sup>4</sup> For the word of the LORD is upright,  
and all his work is done in faithfulness.

<sup>5</sup> He loves righteousness and justice;  
the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.

<sup>6</sup> By the word of the LORD the heavens were made,  
and by the breath of his mouth all their host.

<sup>7</sup> He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap;  
he puts the deeps in storehouses.

<sup>8</sup> Let all the earth fear the LORD;  
let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him!

<sup>9</sup> For he spoke, and it came to be;  
he commanded, and it stood firm.

<sup>10</sup> The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing;  
he frustrates the plans of the peoples.

<sup>11</sup> The counsel of the LORD stands forever,  
the plans of his heart to all generations.

<sup>12</sup> Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD,  
the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!

<sup>13</sup> The LORD looks down from heaven;  
he sees all the children of man;

<sup>14</sup> from where he sits enthroned he looks out  
on all the inhabitants of the earth,

<sup>15</sup> he who fashions the hearts of them all  
and observes all their deeds.

<sup>16</sup> The king is not saved by his great army;  
a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.

Sermon Notes for Reflection and Discussion: Psalm 33

<sup>17</sup> The war horse is a false hope for salvation,  
and by its great might it cannot rescue.

<sup>18</sup> Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him,  
on those who hope in his steadfast love,

<sup>19</sup> that he may deliver their soul from death  
and keep them alive in famine.

<sup>20</sup> Our soul waits for the LORD;  
he is our help and our shield.

<sup>21</sup> For our heart is glad in him,  
because we trust in his holy name.

<sup>22</sup> Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us,  
even as we hope in you.