

Connect Together

How do you feel when someone attacks you for no reason? What do you hope happens to the attacker? What if they were attacking someone you loved and respected? How would that change your reaction?

Lesson Verses - Psalm 5 (NKJV)

1 Give ear to my words, O Lord, Consider my meditation. 2 Give heed to the voice of my cry, My King and my God, For to You I will pray. 3 My voice You shall hear in the morning, O Lord; In the morning I will direct it to You, And I will look up.

4 For You are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness, Nor shall evil dwell with You. 5 The boastful shall not stand in Your sight; You hate all workers of iniquity. 6 You shall destroy those who speak falsehood; The Lord abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.

7 But as for me, I will come into Your house in the multitude of Your mercy; In fear of You I will worship toward Your holy temple.

8 Lead me, O Lord, in Your righteousness because of my enemies; Make Your way straight before my face. 9 For there is no faithfulness in their mouth; Their inward part is destruction; Their throat is an open tomb; They flatter with their tongue. 10 Pronounce them guilty, O God! Let them fall by their own counsels; Cast them out in the multitude of their transgressions, For they have rebelled against You.

11 But let all those rejoice who put their trust in You; Let them ever shout for joy, because You defend them; Let those also who love Your name Be joyful in You. 12 For You, O Lord, will bless the righteous; With favor You will surround him as with a shield.

Study & Apply

1a. What aspect of David's relationship with the Lord is he most conscious of as he prays? (v. 2) How does this relate to his request? (v. 10)

b. To which traits of God's character does David appeal? (v. 4-6) Why are these characteristics of God highlighted as part of his appeal?

c. David, while knowing that he is a sinner, doesn't consider himself the object of God's wrath, but rather one who is able to enter into God's presence (v. 7). What makes the difference in David's life that enables this? (v. 7, 8 - note the possessive pronouns!)

APPLY: What is your confidence that God will accept you, a sinner, into His presence (in prayer, worship, etc.)? (Romans 8:1; Hebrews 4:13) How does this affect the attitude you have toward God while praying?

2a. What is the character of the people David describes in v. 9? What does he expect God to do with these people, and why? (v. 10)

b. In contrast, how does David describe a different group of people in v. 11? What is the foundation for their life? What is noticeable in the life of someone who has this foundation?

c. What does David expect God to do for this group of people? (v.12)

APPLY: How can we find and maintain joy in our lives, even when the wicked seek to harm us? What are the key things to remember when troubles arise?

Discuss & Share

David doesn't give details regarding the ways in which God will bless the righteous, or even when this will happen. What scripture verses could you share with others to help them understand what these blessings include? Likewise, what scripture could you share with someone who is discouraged because the blessings they expected haven't materialized yet?

Grow & Minister

Minister to one another through sharing specific prayer requests.