

Thursday, October 30

Read the entirety of Psalm 27. In verse 4, David says that the one thing he would “seek after” is “to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.” David felt at his best and happy when he was in God’s presence. Think of a time when you felt you were in God’s presence. Close your eyes and imagine where you were at the time and who was with you. Perhaps you were alone, perhaps reading scripture, praying or listening to inspiring music. Try and remember what you were sensing at that time of being in God’s presence. What did you smell, hear, see, touch or taste? What emotions were you experiencing? Spend some time imagining what it felt like to be in God’s presence. Now take some time contemplating a time in which you felt far from God. Think of the same questions above, closing your eyes to imagine that feeling. Write your reflections about these experiences of God. End your day by praying for God’s presences and protection.

Friday, October 31

Read one more time and very carefully Psalm 27. Pay attention to how many times God is mentioned. While it is true that this Psalm is all about God, it was written from the perspective of human suffering and need. When we are in difficult times, it is helpful to remember that God is with us and has done marvelous things for us. We remember, review and rehearse times in which we’ve experienced God’s goodness and celebrate what God has done for us, what God can do for us and our reliance on God’s loving and just nature. We also rely on God’s mercy and forgiveness which is born out of God’s compassion for all humanity. Pray for God’s presence as you seek God’s face and presence in your life daily. Write your thoughts here.

Message Notes October 26, 2025

*We Gather...To Find Comfort**

- I. Psalm 27 is for anyone who’s currently stuck in a _____, has been so in the past, or fears finding themselves in one in the future.
 - A. David, the shepherd boy who became the greatest King of Israel and clearly values _____.
 - B. Pastors Timothy Merrill and Carl Wilton have written a commentary and they share the fact that there are _____ and there are _____.
 1. _____ and _____ differ from day to day or person to person.
 2. According to Psalm 27, David doesn’t feel _____ in his foxhole.
 3. He’s in a _____ place, has very little wiggle room, and is _____ about the future. Like _____.
 - C. What’s your foxhole? Into what hole have you crawled and now it’s _____ you and you are uncomfortable?
 1. I joked last week that I am in my FROG stage and I have come to the point of F_____ R_____ O_____ G_____.
 2. Stephen Covey offers the principle is that “the _____ thing is to keep the _____ thing the _____ thing.”
 3. David’s foxhole revelation is similar: “_____ thing I asked of the Lord that will I _____ after”
- II. If you were to ask the Lord for _____ thing, what would it be? What is the main thing for most of us?
 - A. Studies and surveys agree: We want more _____.
 1. We want to be in a _____ place...

*Psalm 27:1,4-9

2. We want to be _____.
 3. We want good, _____ relationships...
 4. We want to feel _____.
 5. We want to live in a _____ society where we are accepting of others' politics and religion...
- B. David says that the one thing he would "_____ after" is "to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the _____ of the LORD and to _____ in his temple."
1. David was most happy in the _____ of God.
 2. God's absences were usually a product of David's _____.
- C. The observant student of this psalm may have noticed that this poetic praise and celebration is not about _____; it's all about _____.
1. The contrast is between the _____, fear, pleadings and prayers of a faltering human being and a _____ deity who can extract one from certain destruction.
 2. The psalm comes to the conclusion we've known all along: It is all about God — who God _____, what God has _____, does and will _____.

Daily Devotional Guide

The following is a daily devotional and study guide meant to enhance your understanding of the message and grow as a Christian.

It is offered for your personal reflection or to share with others.

Monday, October 27

The introduction of the message mentioned that story of a pastor who fought in World War II and made a promise to serve God if God would deliver him from the foxhole in the Pacific Theater of the war. Pastor Jack mentioned the saying, "There are no atheist in foxholes." Do you agree with that old saying? What's your motivation for having faith? Would you say that your faith is

motivated by many blessings in your life or by challenging times? Meditate on these two motivations, think about your personal experience and write your reflections here.

Tuesday, October 28

Read Psalm 27:1,4-9. After considering the difficulty David expresses in this Psalm, Pastor Jack asked the question, "What's your foxhole? To where, who or what have you turned and found yourself in deeper trouble than you might have imagined? There are so many temptations and distractions that can get into our way back to a healthy and helpful relationship with God and with one another. Take some time today and list your foxholes or at least list the temptations that could become foxholes for you. How do you deal with the cramped and confining issues you have confronted? What temptations do you deal with on a daily basis? As you meditate on these ideas and write your thoughts here, asking for God's love, forgiveness and pathway back to health and wholeness.

Wednesday, October 29

Read Psalm 27:1,4-9. If you were to ask the Lord for one thing, what would it be? What is the main thing for most of us? Pastor Jack offered a list of things that many people mention when challenged with this question: more time, to be in a happy place, to be successful, to be in a good and healthy relationship, to be safe, to live in a civil society, flexible work hours with remote work options and self-discipline. Wow! That's quite a list. Which wants and desires captures your attention? What else would you want of the Lord? How would you feel asking for that from our loving Creator? Write your ideas here.