



Resources

- Watch or listen to Sunday's sermon: abfboone.com/sermons
- Find Life Group resources: abfboone.org/groups/resources

Psalm 118

[1] Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever! [2] Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever." [3] Let the house of Aaron say, "His steadfast love endures forever." [4] Let those who fear the LORD say, "His steadfast love endures forever." [5] Out of my distress I called on the LORD; the LORD answered me and set me free. [6] The LORD is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me? [7] The LORD is on my side as my helper; I shall look in triumph on those who hate me.

[8] It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man. [9] It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes. [10] All nations surrounded me; in the name of the LORD I cut them off! [11] They surrounded me, surrounded me on every side; in the name of the LORD I cut them off! [12] They surrounded me like bees; they went out like a fire among thorns; in the name of the LORD I cut them off! [13] I was pushed hard so that I was falling but the LORD helped me.

[14] The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. [15] Glad songs of salvation are in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the LORD does valiantly, [16] the right hand of the LORD exalts, the right hand of the LORD does valiantly!" [17] I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the LORD. [18] The LORD has disciplined me severely, but he has not given me over to death.

[19] Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD. [20] This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it. [21] I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. [22] The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. [23] This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. [24] This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

[25] Save us, we pray, O LORD! O LORD, we pray, give us success! [26] Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD! We bless you from the house of the LORD. [27] The LORD is God, and he has made his light to shine upon us. Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar! [28] You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you. [29] Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

Sermon Outline:

I.





Life Group Leader Notes:

- ICEBREAKER: Did you have a family tradition growing up that was meaningful to you? Do you have any traditions in your home now?
- God is described in many ways in Psalm 118. For instance, he is our refuge, our strength, our song, our salvation. Take a few minutes to look at the Psalm again. Which of these brings you the most comfort right now and why?
- The Psalm begins and ends with *"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His steadfast love endures forever."* Discuss why those words in particular bear repeating. Why is it good to remember this at the beginning of each day? Why is it good to remember this at the end of each day?
- The Israelites had developed several traditions to help them prepare for the Passover. As Josh mentioned in the sermon, Psalm 118 was part of their spiritual preparation. We are currently preparing for Good Friday & Easter. What are some ways that you prepare your heart to celebrate this weekend? Why is it important to prepare for Good Friday & Easter?
- Proverbs 2 says that we should seek the words of the Lord like silver and search for it like a hidden treasure. This obviously requires a bit of digging and pursuing. Josh described a question and answer method that his father, Carl, used to drill into Scripture. Have you discovered any helpful ways to drill into the Bible? How has this changed your life?
- In verse 5, the Psalmist encourages us to *call upon the name of the Lord in our distress*. There are several other options when we are distressed. Do you ever give God the silent treatment in your distress, and simply grind through your problems? Do you ever curse the name of the Lord? Do you ever call upon some other name in your distress? Why is it important for us to call upon the name of the Lord in our distress?
- Josh provided a long list of passages that describe the steadfast love of the Lord. (Rom. 5:8 // John 3:16 // Rom. 8:37-39 // 1 Jn. 3:1 // Zeph. 3:1 // Eph. 2:4-5 // 1 Jn. 4:9-10, 19 // Jn 15:13 // Jer. 31:3). Are there any other passages that remind you of the great love of God? Spend some time praying, giving thanks to God for his steadfast love.

