



Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

Lookin' for a Leader Series, Lesson 13

Lesson Title: David Writes the Psalms

Take Home Point: Talk to God in a personal way.

Warm-Up:

Imagine a young man who desires a relationship with a woman he knows is interested in him. He gives her an occasional quick telephone call and says, "Hi! I was busy today and so I don't have much time to talk, but I'd really like to get to know you better. Bye!" He learns what he can about her from her friends and asks if they will mention his name when they speak with her. But he doesn't spend time with her; he doesn't tell her what he's thinking or feeling; he doesn't stop to listen to her. What do you suppose is the likelihood any relationship will develop and grow?

Read: Psalm 23, Psalm 103, Psalm 31

Observation (What happened?):

Name at least six ways God helps us according to Psalm 31 (there are many more than six!).

List at least six personal characteristics of the Lord from Psalm 103.

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

Who did David (and the other authors) write the Psalms for? Who did God intend them for?

What do you think is the main point of Psalm 103?

Insight:

We often hear that talking to God is mostly for our benefit, since he already knows what we are thinking and feeling before we tell him. And that's true up to a point. But did you know that our talking to God is also important to him? What does God desire from us? A relationship built on trust. He trusts us with his word and the responsibility to be salt and light in our world, and he wants us to trust him by expressing our thoughts and feelings, fears, joys, concerns, questions, and requests to him just as we would a close friend. We won't surprise, shock, or anger him. But we will show him that we consider him a confidant. To whom do you tell your most private thoughts—strangers? Not likely! We confide in friends we trust. Don't you appreciate the trust it shows when someone confides in you? Imagine how much more so it is for God, who made you and longs to be your constant friend and companion.

Application (What does it mean to me?):

Write two sentences that honestly express how you feel about God's care for you.

Pray those two sentences to the Lord.