

Week of January 15, 2012
Caring in an Expendable Culture

Passage Outline

1. **God Values Us** (Ps. 139:1-6)
2. **God Has a Plan for Us** (Ps. 139:13-16)
3. **God Is with Us** (Ps. 139:17-18)

What This Lesson Is About:

God values life and so should we.

How This Lesson Can Impact Your Life:

We will learn how to show respect for others by treating them as God sees and values them.

1. God Values Us - Psalm 139:1-6

- A. King David celebrates God's perfect knowledge of man's thoughts and actions.
- B. David, understanding God's full knowledge of his life, made no attempt to hide anything from the **Lord**.
- C. The word **Searched** in the Hebrew can be applied to a burglar ransacking a house in search for some valuable possessions. From David's perspective, God had scoured every detail of his life and thus knew him intimately.
- D. However, God did not **search** him to gain knowledge about him because God already thoroughly knew him. The word **to know** in the Hebrew means to have access to the most intimate details of one's life, as in "Adam knew his wife Eve, and she became pregnant..." (Genesis 4:1)
- E. God knew David's every move: **when I sit down and when I stand up**, all his actions throughout the day.
- F. God even understood David's **thoughts from far away**, which implied more than God's ability to detect human thoughts, but rather His awareness of them before David formed them in his own mind.
- G. Because God saw everything and discerned everything occurring in David's life, God had more than a superficial awareness of **all his ways**. God not only heard everything a person might say, He knew **all about it** before **a word** formed on the **tongue**.
- H. Blown away by God's **extraordinary knowledge**, David declared he could not **reach it** or begin to understand, much less describe the depth of God's personal knowledge of his every action, of his every thought, and of his every need. Compared with man's knowledge, God's knowledge supersedes it immeasurably.

2. God Has a Plan for Us - Psalm 139:13-16

- A. David came to realize that God gave him life and began to work in his life prior to his birth. God, and no one else, **created** him. God was not merely present but intimately involved with his design, development, and delivery.
- B. In the phrase, **you knit me together**, David declared that God personally wove together his tissue, bones, arteries, muscles, and everything else into a beautiful tapestry.
- C. When I was a baby developing in my mother womb, we did not have the technology of ultrasound. Today, doctors can see and track this “knitting together” of a tiny baby inside the womb of the mother.
- D. David was overcome by the marvel of God’s creative work in the womb, and broke out in **praise** to the Lord, declaring that he had **been fearfully and wonderfully made**. How much more can we break out in praise to God for His wonderful creation of us?
- E. When David spoke of being **made in secret** and being **formed in the depths of the earth**, he used poetic language to describe human conception and development. Although **hidden** from normal human view, God can easily peer into the womb.
- F. David stated that God’s **eyes saw** him in his **formless** embryonic state, as God worked to fashion this unborn baby. He made all the parts fit together just right so they support one another.
- G. The all-seeing **eyes** of God rested upon this new life before anyone knew David existed, and God **planned** each day before **a single one of them began**.

3. God Is with Us - Ps. 139:17-18

- A. Not only does God know us completely, He also thinks about us constantly. He knows everything about us—and He still likes us!
- B. He knows all about our every sin and moral compromise, yet He fixes His heart on us and thinks about us all the time.
- C. David used a variation of the Hebrew word for expensive jewels to describe the **precious** value of God’s faithful love. He treasured the realization that God thought about him—every second of every day.

D. As David attempted **to comprehend** God's **thoughts** for him, he became overwhelmed. God's thoughts included His plans and purposes from now throughout eternity future. No wonder David exclaimed, **How vast their sum is!**

Biblical Truths from This Lesson

1. God knows, cares for, and values all of us—even when we make sinful choices.
2. We can find forgiveness and restoration through Jesus Christ.
3. We must speak out against ending the lives of unborn babies.
4. We can join with other believers to help build a culture that values all human life.
5. Every human being, born or unborn, deserves the equal protection of the law.
6. Christians can share God's presence as we minister to those who hurt or feel devalued.