

## Ps. 103 Discussion Questions

### Outline of Pastor Mike's Sermon

- **Introduction**
- Structure of the Gospel narrative
  - Creation- God Is Holy
  - Fall- We Are Sinners
  - Redemption- Jesus Saves
  - Restoration- Jesus Sends Us
- Table of Contents
  - Conversations for the Soul
  - Humanity and History Call Us Worship
  - A Very Present Mercy
  - One of Us Can Be Trusted
  - Never Ending Worship
  
- **Conversations for the Soul (v.1-5)**
  - **Summary point- David's remembrance of the work of the Lord causes him to call his entire being to respond.**
  - Psalm 103 is both a praise psalm and a testimony psalm.
  - What does it mean to "bless the Lord"?
  - How is worship different from the soul?
  - David repeats the call to worship to himself and expands it beyond himself to all of creation and the heavenly host.
  - Trajectory of the benefits
    - Redemption from sin and its effects
    - Goodness and fullness of life
  - **Application point- The source of our worship run much deeper than routine**
  
- **History Calls Us to Worship (v.6-7)**
  - **Summary point- David points to a picture of how God has historic cared for his people.**
  - The Exodus event serves as evidence of God's steadfast love and mercy
  
- **A Very Present Mercy (v.8-14)**

- **Summary Point- The picture of God's steadfast love and mercy is not just a fact of history, but available to his people in the present.**
- Allusion to Exodus 34.6
- The Lord's anger is justified, but will not last forever
- The magnitude of love and mercy
- **Application point- The Lord is not surprised by your sin, but knows you and still chose to send Christ to redeem you**
  
- **One of Us Can Be Trusted (v.15-19)**
  - **Summary Point- David's worship is magnified by the recognition of God's unshakeable position compared to our frailty**
  - Descriptions of man's temporal and frail state
  - Descriptions of God's unchanging eternity
  
- **Never Ending Worship (v.20-21)**
- **Summary Point- This unchanging God deserves a praise that matches his mercy.**
- Revelation 5.8-14
  
- **Implication**
- Mercy demands a response

### Discussion Questions

*Feel free to choose what questions will be most helpful to your group to grow in their understanding of the Scripture, learn how to better read the Bible for themselves, and faithfully apply it to their lives.*

Read Psalm 103

1. What does it mean to "bless the Lord"?
  
2. David exhorts his "soul" to bless the Lord. In other words, he is telling himself to worship God with his whole being.

a. Can you relate? Do you find yourself struggling to worship and praise God? If so, why do you think that is?

3. David tells himself not to forget all the ways that God has blessed him (v. 2), and then he lists them (vv. 3-5).

a. The first three benefits are all different ways of talking about redemption, i.e. being delivered from something negative (guilt, disease, bondage). How have you experienced the Lord's deliverance in your life? What has God delivered you from?

b. Next, he "crowns" with "steadfast love and mercy." This is referring to God's unwavering commitment to be kind and good to His people. What are some of the clearest and most tangible ways that you have experienced God's unwavering commitment to be kind and good to you?

c. How has God satisfied you with good and renewed your strength?

4. In vv. 6-14 David reflects on the fact that even though God knows us, his response is steadfast love because that is His nature. As you read through this section, what phrases stand out to you and why?

5. David ends the Psalm by calling upon all creation to praise the Lord—including himself—because of God's great mercy. As Pastor Mike says, mercy deserves a response. God has shown such great mercy, but often it is hard for us to respond as we should.

a. How have you learn to grow in your understanding of God's mercy toward you? What has been most impactful in helping you realize and believe in the extent of God's mercy?

b. How have you seen your growth in understanding regarding the mercy of the Lord impact your life?

c. Are there any new, different or greater ways that God is calling you to respond to His great mercy?