

Sunday, September 5, 2021 - "Summer in the Psalms - Week 12 - Psalm 121" - Doug Kempton & Meg Kempton

Key Passages: Psalm 121, Hebrews 13:1-3, 1 Peter 3:8

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- Psalm 121
 - The Lord is your KEEPER
 - "Every word in this Psalm is calculated to encourage and strengthen our faith and hope in God" - Samuel Eyles Pierce
- "This is a soldier's song as a traveler's song." - Charles Spurgeon on Psalm 121
- v1. Eyes to the hills
 - In poetry hills = obstacles
 - But we are surrounded by God (exits in Babylon, longing to be in Jerusalem looking to God)
 - Choosing to look to God (not elsewhere) for help/comfort/peace
- v2. My help comes from the Lord
 - ...who made Heaven and Earth
 - The one who helps you lacks nothing
 - We sometimes look to the created instead of the creator
- v3. He will not let you be moved
 - Lose your footing → death in rocky desert setting
 - We can walk through life with a firm foundation
- v3-4. Neither slumber or sleep (He who keeps us)
 - "We can sleep in safety because God is ever awake." - N. McMicheal
 - People of Israel/Jewish people are a testament to God's faithfulness and promise
- v5. The Lord is your KEEPER
 - Keeper = whose job it is to take care of someone or something
 - he takes care of us (Psalm 8:4, 1 Peter 5:7)
 - When Cain kills Abel... "Am I my brother's keeper?" the answer was yes
 - God takes care of us and we take care of each other (Hebrews 13:1-3, 1 Peter 1:8)
 - Jesus on the cross: takes ultimate responsibility for the people in his care
- v5-6. Day or night
 - Sun could literally kill you in the desert
 - Psalm 91: God our shelter and shade
- v7. Keep you from evil, keep your life
 - We will experience evil (it's all around us and we don't live in a bubble)
 - God makes a way for us not to walk into sin...we still make a free choice
 - We always have everything we need for life and godliness
 - "None are so safe as those whom God keeps; none so much in danger as the self-sufficient" - Charles Spurgeon

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. What does it mean to you that the Lord is your keeper?
2. How do you intentionally look to God for help/comfort/peace?
3. How have you looked to the created instead of the creator for comfort and peace in the past?
4. What does it mean for you that God does not slumber or sleep?
5. Respond to this Spurgeon quote: "None are so safe as those whom God keeps; none so much in danger as the self-sufficient"
6. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or sermon?

****15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

Mon: Acts 1 Tues: Acts 2 Wed: Acts 3 Thurs: Acts 4 Fri: Acts 5

Songs from the weekend: [The Way - Pat Barref] - [Everlasting God - William Murphy] - [Psalm 46 (Lord of Hosts) - Shane and Shane] - [Shall Not Want - Elevation Worship and Maverick City]