



Lead Me to Life Everlasting

November 17, 2024 Message Notes
Psalms 139

NOTES

“There’s got to be more, there’s got to be more!”
Lyrics in Saturn, by SZA

God’s Word gives us honest, true-to-life songs in the Bible that speak to the deepest desires of our human experience.
- They are called Psalms.

Do you ever feel stuck when trying to speak authentically to God?
Do you lose your train of thought or struggle to find the right words?



The psalms can help give expression to our anger, sorrow, lament, joy, gratitude, and repentance.

Every psalm whispers Jesus' name, pointing to the eventual deliverance, redemption, and salvation that would come to us through Christ Jesus.

Psalm 139 is a confession: "This is who I am, God."

Psalm 139 is also a declaration: "God, this is who you are."

Stanza 1: Omniscience - God's all-perceiving character

"You have searched me, Lord, and you know me.

You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways.

Before a word is on my tongue you, Lord, know it completely.

You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain."

Psalm 139:1-6

While the longing of our heart desires to be needed and known, our sinful nature prefers to hide and divide.

"I'm afraid you won't love me... I'm afraid of what you will think of me... I'm afraid of what you will do to me... I'm afraid that you will reject me."

God will never stop loving you, never stop thinking of you, never harm you or forsake you. He desires to heal you from your wounds, not condemn you.

Stanza 2: Omnipresence - God's all-present being

"Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?"



If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

If I say, 'Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me,'

even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you."

Psalm 139:7-12

There's nowhere we can go where God is not PRESENT!

Whoever belongs to God will never pass away from his PRESENCE, including in those seasons when we make our bed in the 'depths' - the place of utter despair or 'dark night of the soul' where hope seems all but lost.

If God seems distant to you and you are doubtful of His presence with you, then take heart in this psalm. Your belief or unbelief does not change God's character.

"Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? ... No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us."

Romans 8:35, 37

"And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord."



Romans 8:38-39.

What Jesus accomplished on the cross can never be undone. It is all-sufficient.

Stanza 3: Omnipotent - God's all-powerful strength

“For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb.

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

How precious to me are your thoughts, God!

How vast is the sum of them!

Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand—when I awake, I am still with you.”

Psalm 139:13-18

God displayed the breadth and depth of his power by creating everything in heaven and on earth. His power has no rival.

Yet, His power meets us in the most gentle and intimate way. He took great care and intention to form every part of you.

His power defeated the grave and leads us into everlasting life. On the cross, God’s power defeated every sin once and for all.

God’s thoughts about you outnumber all the sand across all the seashores on earth. How good is our God!



Death did not defeat Jesus, and it will not defeat those who place their trust in Him.

CODA - The Path to Wisdom

“If only you, God, would slay the wicked! Away from me, you who are bloodthirsty!

They speak of you with evil intent; your adversaries misuse your name.

Do I not hate those who hate you, Lord, and abhor those who are in rebellion against you?

I have nothing but hatred for them;

I count them my enemies.

Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.

See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.”

Psalms 139:19-24

When we truly believe in God as an all-perceiving, all-present, and all-powerful God for us, the temptation arises to misuse God for our own personal gain.

“God, get rid of my enemies. Make my name great (pride).”

God didn't slay us when we were His enemies. He slayed Himself so that WE might live.

“For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.”

Ephesians 6:12

When we make other human beings our enemies, our true enemy wins.



The call of this song is to invite our Father to continue to search us, cleanse us and lead us past the distractions and into eternal life with him.

Every person is longing for hope, including those we perceive as our enemies.

Search us, Lord. Help us see others as you see them. Give us your strength and courage to love others as you love us.

