

PSALM 21-26

WEEK IN REVIEW + FAMILY GUIDE

WEEK IN REVIEW

This week we read through Psalm 21-26, and all of these chapters are rich with wisdom! Psalm 22 is classified as a **Messianic Psalm**, which means that it is foreshadowing the coming of Jesus Christ. It is important that when we read this Psalm, we think about the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus! "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me" is not simply a cry from David, it is the exact cry of Jesus when He is hanging on the cross (Matthew 27:46). Jesus was carrying the weight of the sins of the entire world as He was put to death, but because God is powerful over death, when Jesus rose again, we now get to live in freedom with joy! Psalm 22 ends with a call to praise God, which should be our exact response to all that Jesus has done for us! Verse 31 says "His righteous acts will be told to those not yet born. They will hear about everything he has done." That is us! Because we know the Gospel, we are now living in the reality of this Messianic Psalm!

Psalm 23 is one of the most famous passages of the Bible, and for good reason! Many people read Psalm 23 when they are longing for **peace**. Peace is a state of tranquility and security, where there is no conflict or violence. The Psalm paints the picture of a stream and a green meadow, which are places of rest. The Psalm begins by referring to God as our Shepherd, and that we have all we need. The responsibility of a shepherd is to protect, guide, care for, and lead their flock, which is exactly what God does for us! This Psalm gives us, members of God's flock, the reminder that when we trust God to be the one in control of our lives, we can have peace! Verse 4 says that even in the hardest, scariest, darkest seasons of our lives, we don't have to be scared! God is still near to us and guiding us to safety.

Psalm 25 is a lament, in which we see David **repent**. To repent means to turn away from sin, and, with a sincere heart and mind, turn towards God. It shows us that we can bring our sins to God, that He is there ready to forgive us, all we must do is call upon His name and ask. Verse 14 says, "the Lord is a friend to those who fear him." To fear God doesn't mean to be scared of Him the same way that you may be afraid of a scary movie. Fearing God means to have a deep understanding, awe, and reverence for His power and holiness! How awesome is it that the Creator of the Heavens and Earth is our friend!

FAMILY GUIDE

BIG IDEA:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● God is Close to Us and Our Friend!
KEY STORIES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Prophecy of Jesus● The Lord is Our Shepherd● God Invites Us to Repent● God is Our Friend
KEY VERSES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Psalm 21:7<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ “For the king trusts in the Lord. The unfailing love of the Most High will keep him from stumbling.”● Psalm 22:1<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ “My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? Why are you so far away when I groan for help?”● Psalm 23:1-2<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ “The Lord is my Shepherd; I have all that I need. He lets me rest in green meadows, he leads me beside peaceful streams. He renews my strength.”● Psalm 25:14<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ “The Lord is a friend to those who fear him. He teaches them his covenant.”
WORDS TO KNOW:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Messianic Psalm<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Foreshadows the coming of Jesus Christ● Peace<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ A state of tranquility and security, where there is no conflict or violence● Repent<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ To turn away from sin, and, with a sincere heart and mind, turn towards God

Reflection Questions

1.	What does it mean to you that God is your friend?
2.	Have you ever repented from your sins?
3.	What can we learn about Jesus from the Messianic Psalms?