

PSALM 33-38

WEEK IN REVIEW + FAMILY GUIDE

WEEK IN REVIEW

We started this week reading Psalm 33 and 34. In Psalm 33, David says that the Lord watches over those who fear him, but what does that really mean? We know that God is loving, that He takes care of us, that He is true to His word, and that He is good! That may not sound too scary to you, and that's okay! This is because fear of the Lord is much different than a fear of heights or a fear of the dark. Fear of the Lord means to have a deep sense of **reverence** and awe for God. To have reverence for someone means to recognize that they are much greater than you, and that you view them with the highest level of honor and respect. God is our rescuer, not a scary god we need rescuing from. When we have a healthy fear of God, our response is to worship, just like David did. Psalm 34:8 says "Taste and see that the Lord is good. Oh, the joys of those who take refuge in him!" Every good thing we experience on Earth is possible because our God is good, how great is He!

In Psalms 35 and 36, David is calling on the Lord and asking for the Lord to bring justice. We live in a world that is broken by sin, and because of this, we can experience hurt from other people. The good news, that is abundantly clear in Psalm 37, is that God is just and He has defeated evil! Psalm 37:17 says "For the strength of the wicked will be shattered, but the Lord takes care of the godly." In order for us to understand this verse, we have to pay attention to the detail of the tense of each verb. The strength of the wicked will be shattered, meaning that on the day that God returns, evil will be put to death for good. As we wait on God, brokenness is still present. However, the latter half of the verse says that God takes care of the godly. It is not referring to the future, but the present! Even as we live in a world that is broken, God is protecting us! We can have strength when we are hurting. He is always with us, working all things for our good. When God returns, we will be saved and get to be with Him forever in Heaven, where there is no sin or brokenness! Praise God!

Lastly, this week we read Psalm 38. In this Psalm, David was pleading that God would come quickly to his rescue. We can pray the same prayer! We can have confidence that God will redeem the brokenness of the world, but we don't have to wait with our hands tied. Each and every day, God invites us to pray, and we can ask Him to come to us and save His people! God wants to hear our requests, and prayer will give us strength as we patiently wait on the day we will meet God and experience the fullness of His glory!

FAMILY GUIDE

BIG IDEA:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● God Cares for Us, Even When Our World is Broken by Sin
KEY STORIES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● God's Unfailing Love fills the Earth● God Rescues those who Fear Him● Our World is Broken by Sin● God will Defeat Evil in the End● We can Pray for God to Return
KEY VERSES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Psalm 33:18-19<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ "But the Lord watches over those who fear him, those who rely on his unfailing love. He rescues them from death and keeps them alive in times of famine."● Psalm 34:18<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted; he rescues those whose spirits are crushed."● Psalm 37:9<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ "For the wicked will be destroyed, but those who trust in the Lord will possess the land."
WORDS TO KNOW:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Reverence<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ A profound feeling of honor, respect, and trust for a being who is much greater than yourself.

Reflection Questions

1.	How is your fear of God different from your other fears?
2.	What are some ways we can have strength as we are faced with the evil of the world?
3.	What are some places in your life you have seen brokenness? In those times, how have you seen God care for you?