

## Psalm 17 – Seeking Refuge

### **I. God's Hearing (vv. 1 & 6)**

1. Prayer is an act of humility. Consider King David. He was powerful, influential, talented and wealthy and yet he didn't go to those areas for help. Instead he goes to the LORD. Have you prioritized your life in this way? If not, what would you say you put before the LORD when seeking for help?

2. Read Luke 11:5-13 and especially vv. 11-13. What comparison is Jesus drawing upon in those three verses? What is he highlighting about God as a Father?

2. Now that Jesus has died, rose from the dead and sits at the right hand of God the Father, what does Hebrews 6:14-16 tells us about approaching God in prayer?

### **II. God's Hiding (v. 8)**

1. Look up the following passages that use the imagery of "wings" as a description of God's protective care – Deuteronomy 32:10,11; Psalm 36:7; 57:1; 63:7; 91:4.

2. The imagery used of "apple of your eye" describes the intensity of care God will give. Read at Matthew 6:25-33. What contrast does Jesus make in vv. 25-30? What is he highlighting for you?

3. Read Colossians 3:1-4 and describe how God hides us. What does this hiding lead to in v. 4?

### **III. God's Helping (v. 7 & 15)**

1. In what way does David ask God to show his steadfast love in v. 7?
2. An example of that wondrous love is found in the life of Joseph. Read through the account of Joseph in Genesis 37-50 or listen to it online (ex. audio on BibleGateway.com). Read Genesis 50:20 and keep track of the ways God sovereignly orchestrates Joseph's life.
3. Do you think that was hard for Joseph? Is that the way Joseph would have planned it himself? Was Joseph satisfied with the way it turned out according to Genesis 50:20?
4. The greatest act of wondrous love is found in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. According to Acts 2:22-24 name everyone who killed Jesus. Have you ever noticed the death of Jesus is attributed to these men as well as to God? Isn't it amazing that God can use even evil to bring about good?
5. David didn't know what God would do in Jesus but he did know that God's steadfast love would not fail him. What did that do for him in the midst of the chaos according to v. 15? Take some time this week to consider God's steadfast love in Jesus Christ. Schedule a time on your calendar like you would for an appointment pray through some of these passages.