

LOVE

A new commandment I give to you, that you love *one another*... (John 13:34)

- *Internal*: How was your week...anything new? How was your walk with the Lord this week?
- *External*: Is there any individual or family who is struggling or needs encouragement from us?

TRUTH

Let the word of God dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing *one another*... (Col. 3:16)

1. When you reflect on the message from Sunday, what most resonated with you?

[\[Dialogue\]](#)

2. Let's read our primary text. Have you heard any of these verses before? Have you known the context behind them?

[\[Dialogue\]](#)

3. What *is* the context of this Psalm? Practically, how do we find the context of a Psalm, or any text for that matter?

Psalm 34 is an acrostic poem (each verse begins with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet) attributed to David, written in the context of when he pretended to be insane before Abimelek (likely Achish, king of Gath, as referenced in 1 Samuel 21:10-15) to escape danger. It's a psalm of thanksgiving and praise, emphasizing God's deliverance, the wisdom in fearing the Lord, and His protection over the righteous. [\[Finding Context: Subscriptions are helpful here / study note hyperlinks to the source events\]](#)

3. What stands out about David's commitment to praise in verses 1–3?

David says he will praise the Lord "at all times" and continually. This praise is not conditional on circumstances; it's a deliberate, ongoing choice. He also invites others to join him, showing that praise is both personal and communal.

4. What does David say God does for those who seek Him?

God answers, delivers from fear, gives radiance instead of shame, and provides protection. The "angel of the Lord" encamping around believers displays God's active and personal care. God doesn't merely remove danger; He replaces fear with security.

5. You may have heard "taste and see that the Lord is good," but what does that actually mean? Why is this idea/reality so hard to convey to a non-believer?

In the OT, oftentimes "taste" is a metaphor for personal experience. It's an invitation to experience God personally, not just know about Him intellectually. Trusting God leads to discovering His faithfulness firsthand. Faith grows through lived obedience, not abstract belief alone. Daily communion with our Maker is life; spiritual nourishment.

6. How does this Psalm balance the reality of the hardships of life and also hope?

David acknowledges that the righteous face many afflictions (see Jn 16:33), yet he confidently

affirms God's ultimate deliverance. Redemption does not mean a trouble-free life, but a life secured by God's saving power. Hope is grounded not in the absence of suffering, but in God's faithfulness through it.

7. How does this Psalm help re-shape our perspective on Praise?

Praise isn't just a response to blessing—it's a discipline that reshapes perspective.

8. Is there anything else you would like to share before we wrap up this text?

[Dialogue]

GREAT COMMISSION

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations... (Matt. 28:19-20)

- Did you disciple your family well this week? Is it apparent to others that Jesus the reason for your hope in your daily activity? Would anyone like to practice sharing the gospel with the group?

CONFESSION/PRAYER/REPENTANCE

But exhort *one another* every day, as long as it is called "today,"... (Heb. 3:12-14)

- Confession is agreeing with God about our sin according to the Scriptures. Is there anything you want to confess before the group? [*apathy, idolatry, selfishness, jealousy, anger, envy*]
- Let's pray, asking God to help us apply His word to our lives.

Sources:

- ESV Study Bible Commentary
- Multiple AI Resources