

Psalm 25



The text – Psalm 25

1. Read verses 1–7. What problems are facing the Psalmist? Why does he pray about these?
2. Read verses 8–10. What does the Psalmist believe about God? How does he know this?
3. What things can happen in the relationship between God and people? Pay particular attention to verses 11–15.
4. What do you think of verse 14 in the RSV? *The friendship of the Lord is for those who fear him.*
5. How does the picture of human need develop in verses 16–20?
6. In verse 21 whose integrity and uprightness is the Psalmist talking about? His or God's? What is the logic of this?
7. Does the Psalm have an idea that holds it all together? What about the idea of *trust*?

The Scriptures – Psalm 25 as a portion of the Scriptures

8. The Psalm is *Of David*. What do you notice if you read with David in mind?
9. How does the Psalm present the idea of covenant? What similarities and differences do you see when you read Psalm 25 and Psalm 89?
10. How is the relationship between God and the Psalmist like that of Jesus and his disciples in John 15:9–16?
11. It can be good to read the Psalms as though Jesus is praying them? Can you imagine Jesus praying Psalm 25?

Our lives – walking the way of Jesus in response to Ephesians 5:21-6:9 as a portion of the Scriptures

12. The Psalmist presents many challenges of being human: shame, enemies, sin and guilt, emotional distress, ignorance and uncertainty. Which of these are you experiencing at the moment? Why?
13. Can you see how this Psalm might shape what you could pray for?
14. How does the Psalmist feel about God? Does this match your current experience?