

PSALM 34

Interim Teaching Elder/Pastor Joe Bennett ■ Grace Bible Church ■ May 31, 2026

I. The _____: God delivers those who fear him.

(1-8)

- 1. God _____ those who _____ him. (1-4)
- 2. God _____ our _____. (5-6)
- 3. God's _____ is sheer _____. (7-8)

II. The _____: Learn to fear the Lord. (9-22)

- 1. Fearing the Lord provides _____. (9-10)
- 2. Fearing the Lord involves _____. (11-12)
- 3. Fearing the Lord affects _____. (13)
- 4. Fearing the Lord means _____. (14)
- 5. Fearing the Lord draws _____. (15-16)
- 6. Fearing the Lord brings _____. (17-21)
- 7. Fearing the Lord means not fearing _____. (21-22)

Psalm 34

Of David, when he changed his behavior before Abimelech, so that he drove him out, and he went away.

¹ I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. ² My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad. ³ Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together! ⁴ I sought the LORD, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears. ⁵ Those who look to him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed. ⁶ This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him and saved him out of all his troubles. ⁷ The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them. ⁸ Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him! ⁹ Oh, fear the LORD, you his saints, for those who fear him have no lack! ¹⁰ The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing. ¹¹ Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD. ¹² What man is there who desires life and loves many days, that he may see good? ¹³ Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit. ¹⁴ Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

These questions are for further study and application of today's text of Scripture. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. One of the best ways to grow as a disciple is by discussing these types of questions in a small group. Find a small group here: gracebiblecw.com/lifegroup or ask someone next to you if you can join their group!

- 1) Read Psalm 34:1-2. What does “God-focused, humble boasting” look like in everyday life? Share a time when someone’s vulnerability about their own struggles or past mistakes actually made Jesus seem more attractive or trustworthy to you. How can we grow in humbly boasting in the Lord like David does in Psalm 34?
- 2) Read Psalm 34:4. When you are going through a difficult season (family, job, or personal health), is your primary instinct to pray for the situation to change, or to seek a deeper experience of God’s presence? How does shifting our focus from wanting an “escape” to wanting “Him” alter how we handle fear?
- 3) Read Psalm 34:5. David likely says this verse while spittle is still on his beard and paint chips are still in his fingernails from his encounter with Achish. Do you find it easy or difficult to live no longer in the shame of your past mistakes? What “spittle or paint chips” (embarrassing circumstances or active struggles) are you tempted to hide from others out of a fear of shame?
- 4) Read Psalm 34:14. If biblical peace means “things functioning as God intended them to” what is an area in your life, your family, or your relationships that currently feels like a boat stuck on a beach or broken in a storm? Keeping Romans 12 in mind (“as far as it depends on you”), what is one active, practical step you can take this week to pursue *Shalom* in that area?
- 5) Read Psalm 34:17-22. How does the reality that “*many are the afflictions of the righteous*” challenge the common misconception that being a Christian makes life easier? How can verses 17-22 give you courage to endure the afflictions you face today? (see also Psalm 119:71, Romans 5:3-5, and 1 Peter 4:12-13).

¹⁵ The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous and his ears toward their cry. ¹⁶ The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, to cut off the memory of them from the earth. ¹⁷ When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. ¹⁸ The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

¹⁹ Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all. ²⁰ He keeps all his bones; not one of them is broken. ²¹ Affliction will slay the wicked, and those who hate the righteous will be condemned. ²² The LORD redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.