

Psalm 25:1–5; 8-10

<sup>1</sup> To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

<sup>2</sup> O my God, I trust in You; Let me not be ashamed; Let not my enemies triumph over me.

<sup>3</sup> Indeed, let no one who waits on You be ashamed; Let those be ashamed who deal treacherously without cause.

<sup>4</sup> Show me Your ways, O LORD; Teach me Your paths.

<sup>5</sup> Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; On You I wait all the day.

<sup>8</sup> Good and upright is the LORD; Therefore He teaches sinners in the way.

<sup>9</sup> The humble He guides in justice, And the humble He teaches His way.

<sup>10</sup> All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth, To such as keep His covenant and His testimonies.

*A Lesson in Trust*  
*Psalm 25:1-5: 8-10*

INTRO:

Will the Lord lead us today? Many books have been written about how we can know the will of God. I know of one book that insists that God does not lead us specifically today. David wrote in **Psalm 25** about how God lead Him.

*I. Pleading with God (v. 1-3)*

*II. Desire for Guidance (v. 4-5)*

*III. Assurance God Will Answer (v. 8-10)*

*I. Pleading with God (v. 1-3)*

**Psalm 25:1-2** *“To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, I trust in You; Let me not be ashamed; Let not my enemies triumph over me.”*

A. David started his song by pleading with God. His pleading did not demonstrate a lack of faith. In fact, the rest of this psalm shows us the confidence he had in God and in His promises.

B. David begins his worship by lifting his very being to God.

**v.1** *“To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul.”*

This is somewhat equivalent to the first verse of *“Speak Lord in the Stillness.”*

*Speak Lord in the stillness  
While I wait on Thee  
hush my heart to listen  
in expectancy”*

C. David also reminded the LORD that he fully trusted in Him.

**v.2a “O my God, I trust in You”**

This trust meant he had risked everything on Who God is and what He promised. Do we do this? Can we risk everything upon God?

D. This where the pleas fit. His requests are (1) **(v.2b) “Let me not be ashamed.”** Boice spends a lot of time explaining the word “*ashamed*” in this context. The idea is more that of disappointed. In effect David is praying that God will not fail to keep His Word. **Verse 3** states unequivocally that God will never fail to keep David and His Word. NASB says, **“Indeed, none of those who wait for You will be ashamed; Those who deal treacherously without cause will be ashamed.”**

E. The second petition is probably parallel to not be left in the wind. The greatest expression of God failing him would be having his enemies triumph over him.

**v.2c “Let not my enemies triumph over me.”**

**II. Desire for Guidance (v. 43-6)**

**Psalm 25:4-5 “Show me Your ways, O LORD; Teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; On You I wait all the day.”**

A. This the heart of this first part of **Psalm 25**. David desires guidance. He prays for God’s leading in His life in two requests. The first petition is parallel in **verse 4**. David wrote:

**“Show me Your ways, O LORD; Teach me Your paths.”**

David makes his request and then repeats it in different words. How did he want the LORD to show him God’s ways? He wanted the LORD to show him the paths along which he, David, should walk. This shows us that God does guide in our lives. The request that God lead, show, or teach us how we should go appears several times in the Psalms. For example, in **Psalm 27:11** we read,

**“Teach me Your way, O LORD, And lead me in a smooth path, because of my enemies.”**

My favorite is **Psalm 86:11**.

**“Teach me Your way, O LORD; I will walk in Your truth; Unite my heart to fear Your name.”**

B. David’s second petition is,

v.5 ***“Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; On You I wait all the day.”***

The theme the deacons and pastors chose for the church here is *“Obsessed with the Truth.”* Here David is obsessed with the truth because God’s revelation is transforming. Through the Word of God we are saved. Through the indwelling Word we are changed into a new creation. We love what He loves and who He loves. We walk as He would have us walk. Notice the reason David pleads for God to teach Him the truth. It is because God is the source of my deliverance. Second, it is because he is waiting for God to teach him His way.

### ***III. Assurance God Will Answer (v. 8-10)***

A. Before we leap into the last point, I want to pause to understand why David is so confident that the LORD will answer his specific petitions for guidance.

***Psalm 25:6-7 “Remember, O LORD, Your tender mercies and Your loving-kindnesses, For they are from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions; According to Your mercy remember me, For Your goodness’ sake, O LORD.”***

David’s assurance was grounded in the LORD’s character, in His forgiveness, and in LORD’s goodness.

B. Now we come back to our text,

***vs.8–10 “Good and upright is the LORD; therefore He teaches sinners in the way. The humble He guides in justice, and the humble He teaches His way. All the paths of the LORD are [steadfast love] and truth, To such as keep His covenant and His testimonies.”***

David did not pray because he doubted the LORD would answer his prayer. He prayed because he knew God would provide the leading and teaching he desired.

C. Because (v.8) ***“Good and upright is the LORD; therefore He teaches sinners in the way.”*** At times we may play games with God. The LORD never plays games with us. He is serious about our knowing the way we should go and how we should live to please Him.

D. David repeats this thought in a slightly different way in **verse 9.**

***“The humble He guides in justice, And the humble He teaches His way.”***

We must recognize God gives grace to the humble. This is not someone with a really poor self-image. This is someone like David who realized he was an undeserving sinner forgiven through God’s grace who receives guidance not because he deserves it, but in spite of his unworthiness.

E. ***“All the paths of the LORD are [steadfast love] and truth, to such as keep His covenant and His testimonies” (v.10)*** The way in which the LORD leads are always marked by God’s unchanging love and His truth. We love because He first loved us. When we have come to Him through faith in Christ we enter the New

Covenant. When we seek to follow and obey Him we find that He leads us in the way He wants us to go.

### **What do we take away from this?**

1. **God will always keep His Word.** Because we know God always keeps His word, He will never leave us flapping in the wind. He will never fail to come through for us.

2. **We can pray for the LORD to lead us and HE will show us the way we should go.** When we pray we need to recognize that many times God does not give us specific guidance. For example, “what car shall I buy?” But He does tell us how we need to live day by day. When big direction changes happen in our lives He does give direction and guidance.

3. **We trust God,** have peace, a sense of His love and His truth in our lives because we know Who He is through His Word. If we know Him, we will love Him and we will trust Him.

Hymn #461 *He Leadeth Me*