

*“The Lord looks down from heaven on humankind, to see if there are any who are wise, who seek after God” Ps. 14 2*

This psalm presents us with a contrast, between living life with, or without God as a genuine factor in one’s life. Living with God as a real part of our lives offers us an alternative to battling through our struggles on our own. It’s about a willingness to ask for help. But sometimes that doesn’t come easily. This psalm leads us to aim for that trust in God, that takes the wind out of our worries, and tensions. Seeking God’s aid, unmasks so many of the false premises we might stake our lives on. Seeking God, makes it possible to live in a state of awareness, so that we *can* make God’s ways part of every calculation about our lives.

The question is, what difference can this divinely calculated approach to living make?

For one thing, it reminds us that our conduct matters! The way we live affects the people and situations we encounter. In other words, the positive and negative things we do and say will correspond in some way to the [positive and negative things we experience .For another, this psalm calls for us to follow the paths blazed for us by Christ. Jesus is the embodiment of the way God has designed human life to be. That leads to the way we are called to work towards God’s destiny for the world, which is promoting all that’s good and whole and just. Whatever we do that aims that way, presents an alternative -in the midst of all the evil and chaos. This psalm calls us to share the good news that our souls can be transformed - so that it becomes our nature to live God’s way in the world.

 This psalm is a call for deepening our spiritual practices, which will have a huge impact on our lives as a community of faith. God is interested in helping us to weather the challenges of being in a new time. This psalm is a call for seeking the wisdom God is teaching the Church; specifically about how to meet the challenges of decline and resistance to God’s new activity in the world. This psalm is a call for *practicing* discernment. We do all of this prompted by the satisfaction of being part of the glorious future that is slowly but surely unfolding.

**I Pray:** For health care, creation care, poverty and injustice to reach all in need. I pray  *for the concerns that come to mind* For my spiritual growth and strength for the day. **….** The Lord’s Prayer

**Blessing:** : Wherever I am , Whatever I do, I will remember that I am God’s beloved. God is with me, and God’s Spirit will give me strength. Amen