

Sermon Title: A Heart for God: Search my Heart

Sermon Scripture: Psalm 139:23-24



## **Sermon Discussion Guide (1/11)**

Begin the discussion by checking in with each person present and share prayer requests/praises with the group. Then, have one person offer a prayer for the group making sure to include any prayer requests that were mentioned earlier.

### **Scripture**

Read Psalm 139:23-24 out loud. Discuss any initial thoughts you have about these verses.

### **Observation**

In these verses, what is David asking God to do? Notice the specific verbs he uses in the prayer. What do you think the verbs mean?

What reason do you think David has for choosing to pray this prayer?

Read Psalm 139:1-12. What do these verses reveal to us about who God is? How might knowing this about who God is influence David's desire for God to search his heart?

Read Matthew 7:3-5. What does this Scripture teach us about judging others? How does our judgment of others prevent us from allowing God to search our own hearts?

## **Application**

Do you have an honest desire for God to search and examine your heart? Why or why not? How might knowing the truth about who God is help you to see this prayer from Psalm 139 as a prayer prayed in surrender and trust and not one prayed in guilt and fear?

In Pastor Kenny's sermon, he named 5 ways that we can subtly deceive ourselves: not seeing ourselves clearly, making excuses instead of taking responsibility, avoiding the truth instead of facing it, pointing the finger instead of looking in the mirror, and pretending to be better than we are. Out of these 5 ways, which one are you most prone to do? How might God be calling you to change this action or thought pattern so that you can allow God to show you the truth about yourself?

In Pastor Kenny's sermon, he shared 3 warning signs that we might be deceiving ourselves: resistance to feedback from people who love us, habitual rationalization, and heightened defensiveness. Do you see any of these warning signs in your life? If so, what hard truth might God be seeking to tell you?

Pastor Kenny closed the sermon by praying Psalm 139. How did God speak to you during this prayer? What is one step of surrender you will take this week to obey the way that God spoke to you?

## **Prayer**

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. - Psalm 139:23-24