

BIBLE PASSAGE

1 How lovely is your dwelling place,

O LORD of Heaven's Armies.

2 I long, yes, I faint with longing

to enter the courts of the LORD.

With my whole being, body and soul,

I will shout joyfully to the living God.

3 Even the sparrow finds a home,

and the swallow builds her nest and raises her young

at a place near your altar,

O LORD of Heaven's Armies, my King and my God!

4 What joy for those who can live in your house,

always singing your praises.

5 What joy for those whose strength comes from the LORD,

who have set their minds on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem.

6 When they walk through the Valley of Weeping,

it will become a place of refreshing springs.

The autumn rains will clothe it with blessings.

7 They will continue to grow stronger,

and each of them will appear before God in Jerusalem.

8 O LORD God of Heaven's Armies, hear my prayer.

Listen, O God of Jacob.

Psalms 84 (NLT)

KEY TAKE-AWAYS



If you want to rewatch the sermon,
go to manheimbic.org/sermon.

On the sermon page search for accompanying
video to this discussion prompt by looking at
the title or the date displayed on the front.

To connect with a small group or host a small
group, please contact the Faith Formation office
at faith@manheimbic.org

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WITH CONNECTED & CARED FOR

SERMON-BASED DISCUSSION



All the believers devoted
themselves to the apostles'
teaching, and to fellowship, and to
sharing in meals, and to prayer.

Acts 2:42 (NLT)



FAITH FORMATION
connect. grow. lead.



At Manheim BIC we strive to initiate and nurture a growing relationship with Christ.

For your time together:

Connect

Get to know each other. Connect, warm up to each other, fellowship. After a long week of all kind of things, just let everyone arrive.

Care

Carry each others burdens. Share life's challenges and practice Soul Care. Cry together. Support each other. Pray together. - Ask: How are you doing?

Challenge

Dive into God's Word. Use the discussion points. Learn from each others insight. Encourage and challenge each other to live a godly life.

Ask: What is God teaching us today?

Clarify

Make sure that everyone knows what's next. Next in your life with God. Next up within the group. Next in general. Have an applicable mission for the week.

Celebrate

Celebrate life's success and God's provision. Worship God's presence. Time to brag about God. - Ask: What has God done in our life that deserves praise?

GROUP DISCUSSION & LIFE CHALLENGE

Use these notes as discussion prompt for your group, or in your personal time with God.

NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS SHOULD START WITH GOD IN MIND. The first habit you would want to establish -before setting other new goals- is a habits that connects you with God. Pastor Bryce started out his sermon with pointing to Psalm 84. Take some time and examine this Psalm. What does it mean that God is our dwelling place? Write a few of your observations down.

Our new sermon series leads us into doing life **WITH God**. Pastor Bryce's sermon helps us to get connected with God through the **5Cs of community**.

- ❖ Regularly making a **Connection** with God - Talking to God in Prayer.
- ❖ Regularly being **Cared** for by God - receiving counsel or ministry from God.
- ❖ Regularly being **Challenged** by God - Hearing from God, through the word, Spirit leading.
- ❖ Regularly receiving **Clarity** from God - Receiving Discernment through the word or from the Spirit.
- ❖ Regularly **Celebrating** with God - Praising Him, being thankful.

This week's sermon focuses on the first two Cs - **Connection & Care**

Connection WITH God

You might recall seeing the following two action steps in the bulletin. Use the two action steps to set your relationship WITH God on a good foundation. Literally, fill in the blanks and set this as a goal.

- > In the next 21 days I want to fast from _____ to enjoy more focused time with God.
- > In the next 21 days I want to begin _____ to enhance my walk with God.

Both of these action steps connect you WITH God. Now it is time to practice them. Who will be your accountability partner to ensure that you follow through with these steps?

Write down that person's name:

Being cared for by God

In the sermon you heard Bryce talk about the 5-minutes with God. When it comes to care, Bryce encouraged us to **Be Still and Silent** for a minute. To practice casting your care on Jesus.

Use the following Bible verses from 1 Peter 5:6-9. Underline the words that speak the most to you.

Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

Now, in your group, discuss how these verses help you find rest and care from God in difficult times. Use the space below to jot down some of the answers:

WITH God's help we can enjoy community with Him and with others. All it takes sometimes is to spend time WITH Him. Make it a Goal in 2022 to spend some more time with God.