

Fireside Chat Preparation



The goal of a Fireside Chat is simple: to bring a group of people together for a conversation about how they're doing in these challenging times. If you come to the fire prepared to honestly answer the question, "How am I doing these days?" then you're 75% prepared! But we thought we would invite you to take one more step in your preparation. Why not take a few minutes to have a similar conversation with God? Psalm 139 tells us that he knows us

better than we know ourselves. We believe spending a few minutes with him will help you get a better answer to the question, "How am I doing?"

Before you go to the Fireside Chat, take a few minutes to read these verses from Psalm 107. The objective is not to learn so much as it is to hear what Jesus might be saying to you about how you are doing right now. Have a look at the questions which are designed to help you personalize the Psalm. Then, get a pen and paper (maybe your journal!) and write out some of your responses and impressions. If one question doesn't make sense for you, simply move on and try another. Then come to the fireside prepared to share what Jesus may have said to you. And if you don't hear anything, that's OK too!

READING: Psalm 107: 4-9

*Some wandered in desert wastelands,
finding no way to a city where they could settle.
They were hungry and thirsty,
and their lives ebbed away.
Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble,
And he delivered them from their distress.
He led them by a straight way to a city where they could settle.
Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love
and his wonderful deeds for men,
For he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.*

Reflection Questions

- 1.) What sticks out to you in this Psalm?
- 2.) What about your life has felt "desert-like" in the past year? Have you ever felt like you've been wandering? How? Who is wandering with you?
- 3.) What are you "hungering and thirsting for" these days?
- 4.) The "testimony" of this Psalm is that when people "cry out to the Lord" in their distress, he answers them. Have you found that to be true? If so, how?
- 5.) How would you answer Jesus if he asked you "How can I help you and make your path straight?"
- 6.) Has Jesus satisfied your hunger or thirst in any particular ways? If not, what are some good things you would like him to give you?
- 7.) Sometimes troubling times are also times of growth. Have you seen any growth in your life lately?