



Week 3: “Daddy’s Got Me Covered”

1. READ

Pastor Watley’s Selected Scripture: Acts 13 : 22 New International Version (NIV)

²² After removing Saul, he made David their king. God testified concerning him: ‘I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.’

Further Reading: Psalm 51 : 1 – 12 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

- ¹ Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.
- ² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin.
- ³ For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.
- ⁴ Against you, you alone, have I sinned,
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are justified in your sentence
and blameless when you pass judgment.
- ⁵ Indeed, I was born guilty,
a sinner when my mother conceived me.
- ⁶ You desire truth in the inward being;
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.
- ⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.
- ⁹ Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.
- ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.
- ¹¹ Do not cast me away from your presence,
and do not take your holy spirit from me.
- ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in me a willing spirit.



2. REFLECT

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This week our Senior Pastor Rev. Matthew L. Watley continued his sermon series entitled “Teach Me How To Pray.” Throughout this series, we are learning the fundamentals of prayer and the importance of praying through difficult seasons. As we endure the various challenges that we’ve been presented with this year, we recognize that prayer must be our first response. Thankfully, we can take comfort in knowing that we serve a God that beckons us into his presence and hears us when we call.

In our lesson for week three entitled, “Daddy’s Got Me Covered,” Pastor Watley encourages us to leave a legacy. In our contemporary society that is not hard to imagine. In fact, it is almost impossible to live in our current culture without having some type of documentation of our lives. Whether through Instagram and Facebook posts, text messages, or emails, most of the things we engage with on a daily basis will have records of our activities that exceed our lifespan. However, how we spend our money and our time are not the only things that future generations should know about us. Which leads Pastor Watley to ask us this very important rhetorical question: **What greater legacy can we leave for our family and friends than a record of our faith relationship with God?** This important question, brothers and sisters, causes us to take an honest look at our own lives. Are we living in such a way that reflects God’s heart and exemplifies our relationship with Him?





Thankfully, there are countless biblical characters that illustrate what it looks like to leave a lasting legacy and a record of their faith relationship with God. One of the preeminent examples of this principle is the legacy of King David. Many of you may be familiar with the life and legacy of King David, known as the greatest king in the history of the nation of Israel. His life and reign included strong leadership, great military victories, and tremendous wisdom. And yet, David's most impactful legacy is not based on his victories or even his shortcomings. Instead, David is most remembered by the written record of his conversations with God in the Book of Psalms.

Most commonly attributed to David, the Book of Psalms gives us insight into David's relationship with God. In many ways, this book serves as a prayer journal for David as he documents the highs and lows of his daily life. While scholars now know that David most likely did not write all 150 Psalms in the Psalter, David's writings and his influence on other writers demonstrates the significance of his legacy. Through David's written record, we are able to learn from his devotion and use his prayers as a model to structure our own prayers. In fact, I would encourage you to use the prayer journal we have provided in the Kingdom Prayer Kit to take account of your prayers and document your relationship with God. (If you were unable to pick one up, click [HERE](#) to access the Kingdom Prayer Kit resources online.)

David's prayers are the perfect example of how to effectively develop your prayer life by focusing on four areas. In many Christian contexts, these four areas have been taught by using the ACTS Prayer Model. **A.C.T.S. is a shorthand that stands for – Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication.** As Pastor Watley notes, this model provides us with the basic materials to construct our prayer life. Each element of the prayer model is important for us to include when communicating with God to provide us with touchpoints of reverence, reflection and remembrance. While we openly and humbly acknowledge each element, our connection to God deepens.

Through **Adoration**, we “warm up” and orient ourselves into a posture of prayer by stopping to honor and admire God. Similar to the way we acknowledge and revere judges, members of royalty, and people in authority, we must also acknowledge and revere God in prayer. However, when we take a moment to recognize how holy and honorable God is, it reminds us how human and fallible we are. This naturally leads us to the next element, **Confession**. When we openly confess our sins to God, we are admitting that we do not have all of the answers. We have all sinned and fallen short, and repentance allows us to give our failures over to God. Thankfully, we serve a God that always forgives and welcomes us back with open arms. This leads us to our third prayer element, **Thanksgiving**. God continues to bless and elevate us in spite of our many mistakes. God's unfailing love and grace is freely given even though we don't deserve it. Therefore, our prayers should always include how thankful we are for what God has done. And when we acknowledge what God has done, we can remember what He is able to do. Through **Supplication**, we can ask God for what we need and trust that “*Daddy's Got Us Covered!*”





3. A.C.T.S. WORKSHEET

Adoration

*During this time, focus directly on God, adoring God for Who He is-- His names, His character, His roles, etc. **Biblical Example:** Psalm 145 – “I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever. ²Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever. ³Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom. ⁴One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts...”*

Confession

*When you acknowledge who God is and adore Him for all that He is, confession is a natural follow-up. We have all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. Thankfully, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins! **Biblical Example:** Psalm 51 – “Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions. ²Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. ³For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me...”*

Thanksgiving

*This is a time for prayers of thanks for what God has done. Thank Him for salvation, the many blessings in your life, protection, provision, open doors, opportunities, etc. **Biblical Example:** Psalm 100 – “Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth. ²Worship the LORD with gladness; come into his presence with singing. ³Know that the LORD is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. ⁴Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name...”*

Supplication

*Prayers of request. This is the time to ask God for His divine help to meet needs, solve problems, or work in someone else's life. **Biblical Example:** Psalm 86 – “Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me, for I am poor and needy. ²Preserve my life, for I am devoted to you; save your servant who trusts in you. You are my God; ³be gracious to me, O Lord, for to you do I cry all day long...”*

