


**"Promises"**  
Psalm 139: The Provision of God

# TALKINGPOINTS WALKINGPOINTS

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A publication of , the adult discipleship ministry of Triangle Community Church.

**Talk** together about the glory of God's kingdom. –Psalm 145:11

Love the Lord your God and **walk** in all his ways. –Joshua 22:5

## Questions for Reflection or Discussion

- Tell us about someone you know—from school long ago or the office today—who's a "know-it-all". How did he earn that reputation? Was that moniker a compliment or an insult?

Did you like him? Did you find him pleasant to be around—or did you try to avoid him?

Let's call him "Bob". Did Bob **truly** know everything?

- Read Psalm 139:1-6. God is **the real deal**—**truly** a "know-it-all"! List all his areas of knowledge.

Do you find God's total, intimate knowledge of you attractive or threatening—and why?

- Now read Psalm 139:7-12. Although you no doubt dodged Bob's company, God is unavoidable! How should we feel about God's omni-presence? Is it a comfort or terror? Why do you think that?

Tell about a time when you tried to hide something from God.

Tell about a time you were glad that hiding from God is impossible.

- Read Psalm 139:13-18. God is all-powerful and endlessly creative. What does that tell you about him? ...about yourself? ...about the difficult circumstances you're in?

How does the psalmist respond to God's endless knowledge and presence (v. 17)? And—more importantly—is that **your** response? Why or why not?

- Read Psalm 139:19-24. God is all-holy—but he presides over a very wicked world! According to v. 20, **against whom** do evil men speak?

In light of this slander, **who** takes action—God or the psalmist (v. 21-22). How do you explain that?

Tell of a time when you "stood up for God, when he was being slandered".

How do we do that righteously (v. 23-24), without "crossing the line", in the way we defend God?

## Psalm 139

- 1 Lord, you have searched me and known me.  
2 You know when I sit down and when I stand up; you understand my thoughts from far away.  
3 You observe my travels and my rest; you are aware of all my ways.  
4 Before a word is on my tongue, you know all about it, Lord.  
5 You have encircled me; you have placed your hand on me.  
6 This wondrous knowledge is beyond me. It is lofty; I am unable to reach it.  
7 Where can I go to escape your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?  
8 If I go up to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.  
9 If I fly on the wings of the dawn and settle down on the western horizon,  
10 even there your hand will lead me; your right hand will hold on to me.  
11 If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me, and the light around me will be night" —  
12 even the darkness is not dark to you. The night shines like the day; darkness and light are alike to you.  
13 For it was you who created my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.  
14 I will praise you because I have been remarkably and wondrously made.  
Your works are wondrous, and I know this very well.  
15 My bones were not hidden from you when I was made in secret,  
when I was formed in the depths of the earth.  
16 Your eyes saw me when I was formless;  
all my days were written in your book and planned before a single one of them began.  
17 God, how precious your thoughts are to me; how vast their sum is!  
18 If I counted them, they would outnumber the grains of sand; when I wake up, I am still with you.  
19 God, if only you would kill the wicked — you bloodthirsty men, stay away from me —  
20 who invoke you deceitfully. Your enemies swear by you falsely.  
21 Lord, don't I hate those who hate you, and detest those who rebel against you?  
22 I hate them with extreme hatred; I consider them my enemies.  
23 Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my concerns.  
24 See if there is any offensive way in me; lead me in the everlasting way.



## Digging Deeper in Your Daily Quiet Time

*"Five Question Bible Study" (see next page) is a simple way to study any passage.  
Let's use it to explore God's knowledge of us...*

**Monday**—Read Matthew 11:25-30

**Tuesday**— Read John 10:14-15, 27-28

**Wednesday**— Read Hebrews 4:13

**Thursday**— Read Nahum 1:6-7

**Friday**— Read John 17:3

**Saturday**— Read John 15:13-17

Need blank copies for doing more  
"Five Question Bible Study"?  
e-mail: [Dan.Clement.TCC@gmail.com](mailto:Dan.Clement.TCC@gmail.com)



Nobody likes a bully. Today, as never before, children are taught not only that we must not bully others, but that we should come to the aid of those who are being bullied.

**Surely God never gets bullied ~ right? Think again!**

The dictionary defines a bully as *"a blustering, mean, or predatory person who, from a perceived position of relative power, intimidates, abuses, harasses, or coerces people, especially those considered unlikely to defend themselves."* (But read 1 Peter 2:23!)

**Psalm 139:19-22** calls upon the righteous person to defend God.

**Does God get slandered at your workplace? At your children's school? This week at the dinner table share an example of how Jesus is disdained in your workplace. Ask your kids about their experiences.**

**How shall we defend God in front of those who slander him?  
How can we show the wisdom, the rightness, of God's ways?  
How can we show our own need for God's mercy and forgiveness?**

## Five Question Bible Study

Bible Text: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



What idea particularly strikes me from this text? [Note in which verse(s) it is found.]



What question does this text raise in my mind—and how would **this text** answer it?



What about Jesus Christ—his character and/or his redemption—relates to this text?



What action must I take as a result of this text? Be concrete and specific.



With whom will I share what I learned from this text? [and what was their response?]