

Lesson Six – July 5
THE HEART OF FREEDOM
PSALM 39

Overview: Psalms 38 and 39 are expressions of grief or sorrow by David during a time of difficulty and trial. He shares with God his attempt to remain silent - not to complain outwardly or to speak even of good things - so he wouldn't offend believers or give ammunition to unbelievers. He recognizes the brevity of life and his dependence on God for peace and deliverance from wrongdoing.

Lessons from the passage:

What you say and how you say it matters.

It's not only the words we use but the manner that we say them that impacts others around us - especially those closest to us.

Are there instances where you hurt your witness for Christ through words, attitudes, or complaining? What steps can you take to avoid damaging your testimony? How can you be more aware and careful in the things you say and the actions you take?

Marking our days - as David says - is not only to realize the brevity of the life span we have but to recognize that we are to live this short span with intent and purpose.

Every day matters.

How are you living intentionally for Jesus each day? Can you share a recent event where you intentionally shared the love of Jesus for someone? Name a time recently where you felt the need to share Jesus' love with someone but failed to do so. Looking back, what do you feel about that moment?

If you have a limited amount of time, why not live all for Jesus?

Goal of the Christian life is to "know Jesus Christ and make Him known"; to grow to be more like Jesus every day; to exchange your life for the life of Christ - that He lives through you in words and action (behavior) each moment and in every interaction.

How do you do things when you know you have a brief time to accomplish them? Do you prioritize your activities to finish the most important tasks first? What is the most important activity in your Christian walk? Can you be more specific? How do you intend to glorify God? How do you live a life that honors Him? What would you do if you knew for certain it was God asking you to do something? Does He have your "Yes" before He even asks?