

Midweek Bible Study: “Known, Formed, and Led by God”

Week prior to 10 Aug 2025

Text: Psalm 139:13–24

Theme: God’s intimate knowledge of us calls for worship, trust, and transformation.

Psalm 139:13-24 - New International Version

- ¹³ For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother’s womb.**
- ¹⁴ I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful,
I know that full well.**
- ¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you
when I was made in the secret place,
when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.**
- ¹⁶ Your eyes saw my unformed body;
all the days ordained for me were written in your book
before one of them came to be.**
- ¹⁷ How precious to me are your thoughts, ^[a] God!
How vast is the sum of them!**
- ¹⁸ Were I to count them,
they would outnumber the grains of sand—
when I awake, I am still with you.**
- ¹⁹ If only you, God, would slay the wicked!
Away from me, you who are bloodthirsty!**
- ²⁰ They speak of you with evil intent;
your adversaries misuse your name.**
- ²¹ Do I not hate those who hate you, Lord,
and abhor those who are in rebellion against you?**
- ²² I have nothing but hatred for them;
I count them my enemies.**
- ²³ Search me, God, and know my heart;
test me and know my anxious thoughts.**
- ²⁴ See if there is any offensive way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting.**

Key Teaching Points

1. **God Formed Us with Purpose (vv. 13–16)**

- “You knit me together in my mother’s womb” — a picture of divine craftsmanship.
- Emphasize the value and dignity of every life.
- Connect to prison ministry: even those society rejects are fearfully and wonderfully made.

2. **God’s Thoughts Toward Us Are Precious (vv. 17–18)**

- His thoughts outnumber the grains of sand — a metaphor of infinite care.
- Invite reflection: How does knowing this change how we see ourselves and others?

3. **God’s Justice and Our Alignment (vv. 19–22)**

- David’s strong language about enemies reflects his zeal for God’s holiness.
- Discuss: How do we balance righteous anger with Christlike love?

4. **God Searches and Leads Us (vv. 23–24)**

- A prayer for divine examination and guidance.
- Encourage participants to pray this personally — “Search me, O God...”

Discussion Questions

- What does it mean to be “fearfully and wonderfully made” in today’s world?
- How can we reflect God’s intimate care in our ministry to others?
- What areas of our hearts do we need God to search and heal?
- How does this Psalm challenge our view of justice and mercy?

Closing Reflection

Invite participants to silently read verses 23–24 and then pray aloud or journal:

“Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.”