

1. Invite a friend to LifeLines!
2. LifeLines for 1/23 will be Isaiah 26:3.

## LifeLines January 16, 2023

### Today's Scripture: 1 Verse

#### Psalm 16:11

You show me the path of life. In Your Presence there is fullness of joy; in Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

### WHY WE'RE HERE

2 Timothy 3:16-17, All scripture is inspired by God & is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, & for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

### AN ASIDE

Last week our Ephesians 1:18 verse referred to “the *hope* to which He has called you...” This week, we find expressions of the “fullness of *joy*” in God’s Presence. Next week, we will reference *peace*. We refer to these words each Advent, & we begin 2023 with this theme in our LifeLines.

**EXTRA CREDIT CHOICES:** 1) List some reasons David is thankful. Make a list of your own. Are they similar? 2) Psalm 16 isn’t long, so read it several days in a row. Any conclusions? 3) Consider memorizing one, or a portion of one, of the verses. 4) List 1 or 2 areas of life where you could trust God more. 5) List ways you already experience fullness of joy.

### CONTEXT

This psalm is labeled a “Mik’tam of David.” Most theologians admit they’re not certain what a mik’tam is; however some say it’s a poem filled with short, blunt statements. Some say Psalm 16 is a golden psalm because it contains “the golden truth of the resurrection” in a prophetic way.

In Psalm 11, David proclaims reasons for his satisfaction with God, trust in God & the security he feels because of his relationship with God.

Our LifeLine verse is the last verse of the psalm. David has confidence that God will show him the path of life that leads to God's Presence. Verses 9-10 even reference resurrection, so David gives evidence of the belief that he'll ultimately spend eternity with God. He rejoices with joy & gladness.

You may enjoy doing deeper research on this verse later because Peter & Paul fully believe David was speaking here of Christ's resurrection & the promise to David that Christ rightfully inherited as the Son of David. Peter & Paul agree that Psalm 16:9-11 apply directly to Christ because while David's body *would* experience decay, Christ's *would not*.

## **DIFFERENT VERSIONS**

### **GNT**

You will show me the path that leads to life; Your Presence fills me with joy & brings me pleasure forever.

### **GW (God's Word Translation)**

You make the path of life known to me. Complete joy is in Your Presence. Pleasures are by Your side forever.

### **ISV (International Standard Version)**

You cause me to know the path of life; in Your Presence is joyful abundance, at Your right hand there are pleasures forever.

### **MSG**

Now You've got my feet on the life path, all radiant from the shining of Your face. Ever since You took my hand, I'm on the right way.

### **NCV (New Century Version)**

You will teach me how to live a holy life. Being with You will fill me with joy; at Your right hand I will find pleasure forever.

### **NIRV (New International Readers Version)**

You always show me the path that leads to life. You will fill me with joy when I am with You. You will give me endless pleasure at Your right hand.

### **NIV**

You make known to me the path of life; You will fill me with joy in Your Presence, with eternal pleasures at Your right hand.

## **NLT (New Living Translation)**

You will show me the way of life, granting me the joy of Your Presence & the pleasures of living with You forever.

## **TLB (The Living Bible - a paraphrase, not a translation)**

You have let me experience the joys of life & the exquisite pleasures of Your own eternal Presence.

## **SELAH**

## **BREAKING DOWN THE VERSE**

*You show me the path of life...*The path of Life is the way of God, the way to God. We are told it is narrow & sparsely populated. It avoids sinful ways like pride & unforgiveness. David is thankful to God for showing him the way that leads to heaven – the path of trust, repentance, rest, love. The other path is the way of the world. David seems to understand that the benefits of his commitment to God in this life will continue into the next, into eternity.

*In Your Presence...*Being in God's Presence is the best place to be! We can be in His Presence all the time by calling on Him & communicating with His Holy Spirit in us. In the presence of God there is joy for the redeemed. That's why we are to seek first the Kingdom of God. David frequently expressed his own delight & joy in God & encouraged others to rejoice in God, the God of his salvation.

*there is fullness of joy...*David's desire is to remain with God after death. David has great confidence, faith & assurance in all God has ever been for him – a refuge & fortress, a counselor & guide, his Shepherd, his Sovereign Lord. The greatest joy is being in God the Father's Presence/God the Son's Presence. David had that confidence, believing then & forever that his life with God would be marked by the highest & best pleasures. He knew fullness of joy included a state of constant communion with God.

We have that now as we become more & more aware of His abiding presence with us in the person of the Holy Spirit. Remember the significance of John 17:3, which we studied a while back – “And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, & Jesus Christ whom You have sent.” We can find fullness of joy today because it is a Fruit of the Spirit.

*in Your right hand...*The right hand is the place of favor, honor, dignity & nobility. It is considered the place of security. Christ is at God's right hand. We are *in Christ* at God's right hand. This is the place of priority in the heavenly courts. God has placed us there with His Son.

*are pleasures forevermore...*The pleasures that come to us from the hand of God are eternal, never ending – never ending joy & pleasures! They cannot be bought, only received from the gracious hand of our loving God who made eternity possible for us.

Last week's verse was about hope & our inheritance. When this week's verse speaks of pleasures forevermore, remember - these "forevermore" pleasures are also part of our inheritance, an inheritance beyond imagining!

## **SELAH**

**RELATED VERSES** (There are certainly related verses not included in this list. Add others as you think of them.)

Psalm 11:7, For the Lord is righteous; He loves righteous deeds; the upright shall behold His face.

Psalm 16:8, I keep the Lord always before me; because He is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

Psalm 16:9-10, Therefore my heart is glad, & my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure. For You do not give me up to Sheol, or let Your faithful one see the Pit.

Psalm 17:15, As for me, I shall behold Your face in righteousness; when I awake I shall be satisfied, beholding Your likeness.

Psalm 36:8, They (all people) feast on the abundance of Your house, & You give them drink from the river of Your delights.

Psalm 43:4, Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy; & I will praise You with the harp, O God, my God.

Psalm 46:4, There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

Psalm 49:15, But God will ransom my soul from the power of Sheol, for He will receive me.

Psalm 91:14a & 16, Those who love Me, I will deliver; With long life I will satisfy them & show them My salvation.

Psalm 140:13, Surely the righteous shall give thanks to Your name; the upright shall live in Your Presence.

Psalm 149:4-5, For the Lord takes pleasure in His people; He adorns the humble with victory. Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches.

Proverbs 12:28, In the path of righteousness there is life, in walking its path there is no death.

Isaiah 61:7 (ESV), Instead of your shame there shall be a double portion; instead of dishonor they shall rejoice in their lot; therefore in their land they shall possess a double portion; they shall have everlasting joy,

Matthew 5:8, “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.”

Matthew 7:14, “For the gate is narrow & the road is hard that leads to life, & there are few who find it.”

Acts 2:24, (Peter is speaking) But God raised Him up, having freed Him from death, because it was impossible for Him to be held in its power. For David says concerning Him, ‘For I saw the Lord always before me, for He is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad & my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope.

Acts 2:28, (Peter continues quoting David), ‘You have made known to me the ways of life; You will make me full of gladness with Your Presence.’

Acts 13:34, (Paul is speaking) As to His raising Him from the dead, no more to return to corruption, He has spoken in this way, ‘I will give You the holy promises made to David.’

1 Corinthians 2:9-10, But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love Him” – These things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.

1 Corinthians 13:12, For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.

2 Corinthians 4:17, For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure.

1 Thessalonians 4:17-18, Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; & so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

## **SUMMARY**

Among the many reasons for us to proclaim our satisfaction with God is the fact that He sent Jesus to die for our sins! *And*, He didn't leave Jesus in a grave. His body didn't experience decay. Jesus is alive, & because He lives, we who believe will live also!

We've heard the phrase, 'live life to the full.' If we are living a life close to God, seeking His Presence, accepting the privilege of being *in Christ*, we can be filled with joy & satisfaction in *this* life.

Are you satisfied with God? Let this Psalm assure you that we're not missing out on anything in life - *we follow the Lord*. Even when life is tough on earth, we have the sure confidence of knowing we will one day be with God in whom there are pleasures forevermore.

How often do we tell God or others about our delight in & appreciation for Him? For all He affords us?

## **CONCLUSION**

David celebrated his relationship with God & expressed great joy in believing. David felt secure even in the face of death & believed his eternal destiny was assured. We have the same blessed assurance knowing that not even death will separate us from the presence of the Lord or fellowship with

Him. David used an interesting phrase. He was confident he would *survive death!* Think about that - as believers, so will we!

John Piper is a New Testament scholar, theologian, pastor & chancellor of Bethlehem College & Seminary in Minneapolis. He states the main point of Psalm 16 is this: “God will bring you – body & soul – through life & death to full & everlasting pleasure, if He is your safest refuge, & your supreme treasure, & your sovereign Lord, & trusted counselor.”

This is how David viewed God. After living a life connected to & trusting in God, David fully anticipated unending pleasure in God’s Presence at the end of his life. So should we! This is true *joy!*

*Let this verse be a **LifeLine** for you!*

*Let’s Continue Learning!*

**SCRIPTURE IS OUR –**  
***LifeLine!***