

**Sermon Document**  
**February 9th 2025**  
**Psalm 125**  
**Surrounded**

Hebrews 2:14 ESV

Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil,

Psalm 125 ESV

A Song Of Ascents.

Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion,  
which cannot be moved, but abides forever.

**2**

As the mountains surround Jerusalem,  
so the Lord surrounds his people,  
from this time forth and forevermore.

**3**

For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest  
on the land allotted to the righteous,  
lest the righteous stretch out  
their hands to do wrong.

**4**

Do good, O Lord, to those who are good,  
and to those who are upright in their hearts!

**5**

But those who turn aside to their crooked ways  
the Lord will lead away with evildoers!  
Peace be upon Israel!

John 17:11 ESV

And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one.

John 17:15 ESV

I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one.

“I am full of faith one day and empty with doubt the next. I wake up one morning full of vitality, rejoicing in the sun; the next day I am gray and dismal, faltering and moody. “Nothing can move it”—nothing could be less true of me. I can be moved by nearly anything: sadness, joy, success, failure. I’m a thermometer and go up and down with the weather.”

-Eugene Peterson

Genesis 50:19–20 ESV

But Joseph said to them, “Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.

Romans 8:28 ESV

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

1 Corinthians 10:13 ESV

No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

Luke 4:5–8 ESV

And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, and said to him, “To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” And Jesus answered him, “It is written, “ ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.’ ”

Ezekiel 36:26–27 ESV

And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

1 John 2:19 ESV

They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us.

## **Life Group Questions**

- 1. What did God say to you through His Word during our Sunday gathering?**
- 2. What does this psalm teach us about a believer's stability and security? What does it teach us about the Lord's goodness and justice?**
- 3. What would it look like to live as if God surrounds you? In what ways do we try to take matters into our own hands rather than trusting Him?**
- 4. How would this week change if instead of looking at all the ways you might fail, you would live in the freedom of being surrounded by God?**
- 5. Eugene Peterson wrote "Nothing contrary to God's justice has any eternity to it." In the sermon we said "the worst will not last" How could these truths encourage your faith this week? How might they encourage others in your life?**
- 6. As a Christian what is most true about yourself? How could they shape your understanding of suffering and trouble?**
- 7. How might Joseph's perspective on evil help us when evil comes our way? What about his perspective encourages you? What challenges you?**
- 8. How could my life group help me live out the truths of Psalm 125?**
- 9. If time permits end by reading and praying through Jesus' high priestly prayer in John 17**