



Sermon Guide

Sermon: Access to God

Text: Isaiah 56:9-57:21

Announcements:

-This is the last week for the LIFE groups for the 2019-2020 year. Take a few moments to let your LIFE group leaders and your hosts know how much they have blessed you.

Prayer:

- Pray that the Lord would enable us to meet soon—at least by Sunday, May 31st!
- Pray for Dr. Ambrose Emmanuel and his father, the victim of Islamic persecution.

Sermon Questions and Application:

Big idea: God is readily accessible to the contrite of heart.

1. What is something that ministered to you personally from either the passage or the sermon?
2. In Isaiah 56:9-12 we read how the leaders were living in the bed of laziness and indulgences. What does spiritual laziness and indulgence look like for us today? What is it about these traits that hamper our relationship with God?
3. Read Isaiah 57:3-13 about those lying in the bed of lust. We lust because we believe that we lack something in life, and the object of our lust will fill that void.
 - a. Think about your own temptations and lusts. Can you identify the specific void your lusts are trying to fill?
 - b. Why does this damage our accessibility with God?
4. In 57:1-2 we see how the faithful were dying in the bed of peace.
 - a. What is it about the threat of anonymity that can cause us distress and a loss of peace?
 - b. How do these verses help us in life, as well as in death, concerning difficult circumstances and an enduring peace through them? What are some other Scriptures that help you with peace despite difficulties and anonymity?
5. In 57:14 God says he has removed the obstacles that bar us from Him. Looking back on your life, what specific obstacles have you seen God remove in order to gain accessibility with Him?



6. This passage lets us know that peace is not something we work for, but is granted unto the contrite of heart. Has the pandemic shown you anything regarding your source for peace? What have you discovered?