

## Number Our Days

Psalm 90 || Pastor Randy Pope || 24 May 2020

*To CARE for one another in truth and in love,  
To GROW together as followers of Jesus,  
To SERVE those God has placed in our path.  
– CG Mission Statement*

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**Icebreaker:** How has your time been more structured during these past few months? How has it been less?

**Worship:** Ephesians 5:15 (*Read aloud three times, spend time in reflection listening for God's invitation to you.*)

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### Sermon Summary for Psalm 90

Time. It's our most precious commodity, yet we usually ignore its value, assuming we have so much left at our disposal. Many of us blow it foolishly. Others spend it cautiously. As followers of Christ, we must consider what it means to spend our time wisely, honoring Him in every area of our lives. Why is this so important?

Life is Short (v1-6). In our youth, we can't help but think we will live forever. But ask anyone a bit further along, and they will commonly remark, "How has life gone by so fast?" The truth – as Psalm 90 so poetically describes – is that our lives here are overwhelmingly brief. Perhaps that's why we avoid considering it. But life doesn't work that way. We can't put off God or "numbering our days" indefinitely. Because we may never get that opportunity.

We are Accountable to God for our Lives (v7-11). Should we as Christians worry about the wrath of God? No: Jesus has already paid for the penalty and punishment due for the sins of the world. Nor does God reject or withdraw from His beloved children out of anger. He loves us *purely*. However, God does feel anger out of His overflowing love. It's not retribution or punishment; it's the love of a parent who sees His children doing great harm to themselves. We tend to think the present is designed to be a comfortable destination. But pain and hardship are a reality of life; to be wholly insulated from them is unhealthy. We as sinful, broken people *will* deal with suffering and death. Because of sin, our lives are an uncomfortable preparation for a very comfortable destination: Heaven itself. For that reason, we need to be conscious and conscientious about the time we have been given.

A Well Spent Life Will Leave a Permanent Accomplishment (v12,17). God seeks to refine us – to sanctify our lives, making us "perfect and complete, lacking in nothing" (James 1:4). This will take time and requires us to experience and endure hardship. We will never understand this fully, nor will we have the perspective to appreciate it until we are with Him in Heaven. So what do we do? We trust. We go to God's Word, we read what He has to say about it, and we trust. *"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the LoRD, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the LoRD"* (1 Cor 15:58).

**Discussion Questions** (*It's better to wrestle deeply with a few good questions than to gloss over many.*)

- What does it mean to number our days? Why are we to number our days?
  - What difference would it make to approach each day as a gift, entrusted to you by God?
  - What makes God angry in this Psalm? What did God do with this anger?
  - Psalm 90:12-17 is a prayer. What are some specific things the Psalmist asks God for and why?
    - Which would you like to ask God for and why?
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### What Can We Be Praying For?

Psalm 90:12-17 is a prayer. Personalize and pray these verses for one another presenting your requests to God.

### Engage & Experience

The Psalmist tells us that life is short and to ask God to "teach us to number our days, that we may get a heart of wisdom." Give your days to God this week. See how He leads you and gives you a heart of wisdom. Share your experiences the next time you meet as a group.