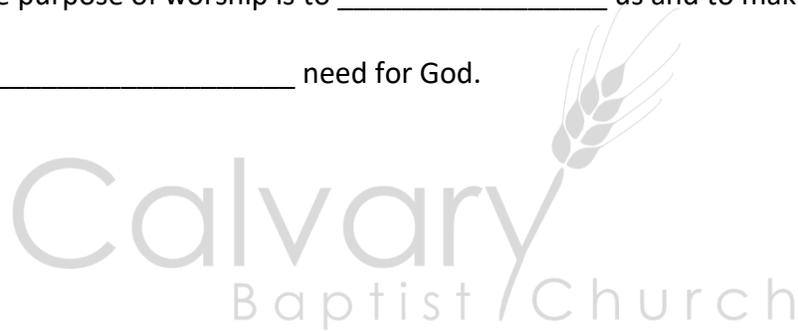


Psalm 14

The Response of the Fool

1. The _____ of Depravity (vv. 1-6)

- Psalm 14 is referring to the _____ fool.
- Worship must begin with a _____ of our sin
- The purpose of worship is to _____ us and to make us realize our _____ need for God.



2. The _____ for Deliverance (v. 7)

- The good news of the Gospel: God _____ us and that God loves us.
- The _____ is not only a man of understanding but one who _____ in accordance to his understanding.
- "The ultimate _____ of the ungodly is as certain as the ultimate _____ of God."

Prayer response to Psalm 14:

- Pray that you would see your own foolishness and ask God to convict your heart and transform you.
- Pray for the courage to share the truth of the gospel and the cure for sin with others.
- Pray that you would rely on the Lord for deliverance from evil and that we would have faith and find hope and joy in Him.

Missionary Report from Early 2020

Dear Friends,

Such riveting days we live in, eh? All of you are currently in your own unique set of corona-circumstances, but I thought it was time for me to send out an update from ground zero—not exactly, but we’re much closer than you. We are so immensely thankful to have the blessing and privilege of working here since all of this began—and there is no sarcasm there at all—we are genuinely grateful. These past several weeks have been one of the most needful and fulfilling times of ministry we can remember. I will try to give a rough yet certainly incomplete summary.

Where you all are at now—mass purchasing from grocery stores, quickly rising numbers of cases, new unheard of lockdowns and social controls—this began for us a full eight weeks ago, and it’s still ongoing (although stores are fairly well stocked now). What “lockdown” means varies from place to place, but essentially no formal gatherings of any kind, no guests at all within our house or complex, and those who live on university campuses have been unable to leave campus or even move between buildings at times. Empty subways and apocalyptic mask-wearing is the norm. Some have been confined to dorm rooms alone for many weeks on end. Our cities seem like virtual ghost towns.

In the early weeks (late January), physical needs were great. Those of us who had bits of freedom and mobility made deliveries of food, medicine and cleaning products to those who were stuck. It was challenging and creative work, being part of a “taskforce” trying to both locate supplies and make deliveries when people weren’t being allowed in or out. People receiving bags of rice or a few vegetables with looks on their faces like it was Christmas day. Things being thrown over fences and hearing “God bless you!” from the other side. My wife spent several days in a hospital changing bed pans and making food for a woman who just gave birth, because she had no family in the country (and the hospital staff was busy with other things). It was a real Acts-like time, where the Church was able to rise up and provide for needs, giving many cold cups of water in Jesus’ name.

After the first couple of weeks, the primary need shifted from physical needs, to emotional and spiritual needs. Single students struggling with isolation, loneliness, fear, anxiety, frustration, addiction (screens often being the only available entertainment)—all of this created needs for constant conversations and counseling. My wife and I have probably been on our phones more these two months than we have in the whole last year!

It has also been challenging to provide needful times of worship, prayer, and interaction. I’m not a high-tech person by any stretch, but I’m learning how to host online meetings, how to pre-record and upload sermons and trainings, and how to quietly meet people in corners of a public park for fellowship and discussion. Virus or not, the Church is still God’s vehicle for Gospel-proclamation and facilitating growth among God’s people—the Church never gets a vacation! I am reminded of the days of Martin Luther, when plagues were sweeping across Germany. He encouraged Christians not to hide and “fend for themselves,” but rather to run straight into the areas of greatest need and demonstrate the love of Christ.

Please know that we are praying for all of you and your ministries during this challenging time, and we are grateful for yours as well. How marvelous it will be to one day know how God used all these days of quarantine to purify His church and to make His name great in this world.

Kids Activity Page

Read Psalm 14:1-3 and answer the questions below. Look over your “person” outline as you answer the following questions.

How many are corrupt? (their hearts are empty)

How many understands? (their minds are dark)

How many seek for God? (their eyes are closed)

How many have turned aside?

How many do good?

According to Psalm 14:1-3, is anyone righteous (sinless) and good enough to be okay before God? Circle your answer.

Yes No

Does this include you? Circle your answer.

Yes No

What is our problem?

What is the answer to our problem, seen in Psalm 14:7 and in Romans 3:24?

