

Bible Study 101

Passage - Psalm 56



Step 1: Content – Listing out the facts in 10-20 statements

- 56: 1 Be gracious to me O God, for man has trampled upon me and fights me all day long oppressing me
- 56:2 My foes have trampled upon me all day long and they are many who fight proudly against me
- 56:3 When I am afraid I will put my trust in Thee
- 56:4a I have put my trust in God in whose word I praise
- 56:4b I shall not be afraid, what can mere man do to me
- 56:5 All day long they distort my words and their thoughts are against me for evil
- 56:6 They attack, they lurk, they watch my steps as they have waited to take my life
- 56:7 Because of wickedness, cast them forth, in anger put down the people's O God.
- 56:8a Thou has taken account of my wanderings
- 56:8b Put my tears in a bottle, are they not in Thy book?
- 56:9a Then my enemies will turn back in the day when I call
- 56:9b This I know that God is for me
- 56:10-11a In God whose Word I praise, in the Lord, whose Word I praise, in God I have put my trust
- 56:11b I shall not be afraid, what can man do to me.
- 56:12a Thy vows are binding upon me O God.
- 56:12b I will render thank offerings to Thee
- 56:13a Thou has delivered my soul from death
- 56:13b Thou has delivered my feet from stumbling so that I can walk before God in the light of the living.

Notes: _____

Step 2: Divisions – Summarizing the facts

- I. 56:1-2 – David cries out to God in desperation about his enemies.
- II. 56:3-4 – David asserts his trust in God despite his enemies.
- III. 56:5-6 – David describes the actions of his enemies.
- IV. 56:7-13 – David asserts his trust in God and his commitment to Him.

Notes: _____

Step 3: Subject Sentence – Using the facts to describe the entire passage in one sentence

Subject Sentence - Amidst his enemies actions, David trusts in God and commits to Him.

Notes: _____

Step 4: Heart – Considering all the facts to determine the heart of the passage

Aim: To cause the learner to choose to trust God even in the midst of challenging enemies.

Notes: _____

Step 5: Specific Application Questions – Creating questions to help apply the passage to real life

- I. Can you tell about a time that man has trampled upon you, oppressed you or fought proudly against you? What was your reaction? Did you call out to God like David?
- II. Read verses 3-4. Is this your attitude? Do you consider man to be mere in comparison to God? How do you display that in daily thought and action?
- III. David describes the actions of his enemies. Describe the actions of your enemies?
- IV. In verses 7-13, David again asserts his trust in God. How often do you have to reassert your trust in God. Why? Do any of the words in verses 7-13 especially comfort you? Why?

Notes: _____

