



ASCENT: The Upward Look #2

Sunday, Aug 28, 2022

Gahanna campus

WELCOME (15 minutes)

- **Ice Breaker:** Talk about what you wear on your eyes = Glasses? Contacts? Readers? Sunglasses? If you do wear sunglasses – what type? How particular are you about what you wear and how often?

WORSHIP (10 minutes)

- Using your favorite streaming service, sing together “Morning By Morning (I Will Trust)” by Pat Barrett. Lyrics are on the back

WIN (15 minutes)

- **PRAY** for friends, co-workers, family, etc. that don't know Jesus
- **TALK ABOUT** what you can do **as a small group** to help reach them!

WORD (25 minutes)

Have 2 different people begin by reading aloud Psalm 123 & Psalm 124

1. Read again Ps 123:1-2 along with Hebrews 12:2. Charles Spurgeon warns, “*We must use our eyes with resolution, for they will not go upward to the Lord of themselves, but they incline to look downward, or inwards, or anywhere but to the Lord.*” Which of these words characterize how you look to God? Which ones would you like to grow in? = Reverently, Continuously, Submissively, Obediently, Expectantly, Imploringly, Attentively, Singularly
2. Read vs 3-4. In what ways have you endured much from others? How are you able to keep your focus looking up to God as your source of mercy?
3. Consider the following quote by Eugene Peterson: “*Too often we think of religion as far-off, mysteriously run bureaucracy to which we apply for assistance when we feel the need. We go to a local branch office and direct the clerk (sometimes called a pastor) to fill out our order for God. Then we go home and wait for God to be delivered to us according to the specifications that we have set down.*”
4. Read again Psalm 124:1-6. How do we maintain a perspective of gratefulness, recognizing God's ongoing work and protection in our lives? Ask God for eyes to see His ongoing care for you and His people even in the midst of various trials.
5. Read vs 7-8 along with Romans 8:1 & 37-39. In Christ, what have we escaped? How are you freely living for Jesus without fear?

WORKS (25 minutes)

- Break down into smaller units of 2 or 3s to pray with and for each other!

“Morning By Morning (I Will Trust)” by Pat Barrett

Daily, daily, I surrender
Grace for today is all that I need
Surprised by a mercy that's new every
morning
Awaken my soul to sing
Oh, awaken my soul to sing

I will trust where You lead
I will trust when I can't see
Morning by morning
Great is Your faithfulness to me

Breath by breath overtaken by wonder
One step at a time when I'm
overwhelmed
Strength for today and bright hope for
tomorrow
Awaken my soul to sing
Oh, awaken my soul to sing

I will trust where You lead
I will trust when I can't see
Morning by morning
Great is Your faithfulness to me

I will trust with all my heart
You are good, You always are

Morning by morning
Great is Your faithfulness to me

All fear be reminded
My future is secure
Oh, my Father has spoken
And He keeps His every word

All fear be reminded
My future is secure
Oh, my Father has spoken
And He keeps His every word

So I will trust
I will trust You
Oh, morning by morning
Oh, morning by morning

I will trust where You lead
I will trust when I can't see
Morning by morning
Great is Your faithfulness to me

I will trust with all my heart
You are good, You always are
Morning by morning
Great is Your faithfulness to me