

Bible Text New International Version	What does the psalm reveal about God and how we are to approach, address, and respond to God?
<p>Psalm 5^a <i>For the director of music. For pipes. A psalm of David.</i></p> <p>¹ Listen to my words, LORD, consider my lament.</p> <p>² Hear my cry for help, my King and my God, for to you I pray.</p> <p>³ In the morning, LORD, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait expectantly.</p> <p>⁴ For you are not a God who is pleased with wickedness; with you, evil people are not welcome.</p> <p>⁵ The arrogant cannot stand in your presence. You hate all who do wrong;</p> <p>⁶ you destroy those who tell lies. The bloodthirsty and deceitful you, LORD, detest.</p> <p>⁷ But I, by your great love, can come into your house; in reverence I bow down toward your holy temple.</p> <p>⁸ Lead me, LORD, in your righteousness because of my enemies— make your way straight before me.</p> <p>⁹ Not a word from their mouth can be trusted; their heart is filled with malice. Their throat is an open grave; with their tongues they tell lies. <i>(continued)</i></p> <p>a. In Hebrew texts 5:1-12 is numbered 5:2-13.</p>	

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<p>Psalm 5 (<i>continued</i>)</p> <p>¹⁰ Declare them guilty, O God! Let their intrigues be their downfall. Banish them for their many sins, for they have rebelled against you.</p> <p>¹¹ But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you.</p> <p>¹² Surely, LORD, you bless the righteous; you surround them with your favor as with a shield.</p> <p>Psalm 17</p> <p><i>A prayer of David.</i></p> <p>¹ Hear me, LORD, my plea is just; listen to my cry. Hear my prayer— it does not rise from deceitful lips.</p> <p>² Let my vindication come from you; may your eyes see what is right.</p> <p>³ Though you probe my heart, though you examine me at night and test me, you will find that I have planned no evil; my mouth has not transgressed.</p> <p>⁴ Though people tried to bribe me, I have kept myself from the ways of the violent through what your lips have commanded.</p> <p>⁵ My steps have held to your paths; my feet have not stumbled.</p> <p>⁶ I call on you, my God, for you will answer me; turn your ear to me and hear my prayer.</p>	

Bible Text New International Version	What does the psalm reveal about God and how we are to approach, address, and respond to God?
<p>Psalm 17 (<i>continued</i>)</p> <p>⁷ Show me the wonders of your great love, you who save by your right hand those who take refuge in you from their foes.</p> <p>⁸ Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings</p> <p>⁹ from the wicked who are out to destroy me, from my mortal enemies who surround me.</p> <p>¹⁰ They close up their callous hearts, and their mouths speak with arrogance.</p> <p>¹¹ They have tracked me down, they now surround me, with eyes alert, to throw me to the ground.</p> <p>¹² They are like a lion hungry for prey, like a fierce lion crouching in cover.</p> <p>¹³ Rise up, LORD, confront them, bring them down; with your sword rescue me from the wicked.</p> <p>¹⁴ By your hand save me from such people, LORD, from those of this world whose reward is in this life. May what you have stored up for the wicked fill their bellies; may their children gorge themselves on it, and may there be leftovers for their little ones.</p> <p>¹⁵ As for me, I will be vindicated and will see your face; when I awake, I will be satisfied with seeing your likeness.</p>	

Reflections

Describe a time when you either experienced or participated in gossip, rumors or stories that were hurtful. How did it impact you?

Have you ever experienced false accusations? If so, how did you handle them?

