

Let Us Harken to David's Instructions
(Psalm 34:11)

Introduction:

1. In this verse David offered a special invitation to God's children.
2. David invites us to hearken to the instructions he recorded in this Psalm.
3. We need to accept David's invitation because he has something worthwhile to teach us -- *"the fear of the Lord"* (Psalm 19:9a).
4. Harkening to David's instructions will enable us to enjoy many wonderful blessings, one of which is "seeing good days."
5. Let us begin by pointing out . . .

Discussion:

- I. WHY WE NEED TO HEARKEN TO DAVID'S INSTRUCTIONS
 - A. We learn from vs.1 that David had a close relationship with the Lord.
 - B. Even though David had a close relationship with the Lord, he faced many afflictions, but God had blessed him repeatedly (vs.4, 6).
 - C. (vs.3) David made an appeal for others to have a close relationship with the Lord.
 - D. David pointed out in vs.19a that "the righteous" face "many afflictions," as he did.
 - E. Despite many afflictions, God will bless His people, just as He had blessed David (vs.8-10, 17-19, 22).
 - F. Now that we know why we need to do so, . . .
- II. LET US HEARKEN TO DAVID'S INSTRUCTIONS IN PSALM 34:12-16
 - A. According to vs.12, David's instructions are for those who desire life and love many days that he may see good (1 Peter 3:10a -- *"he that will love life, and see good days"*).
 - B. David's instructions:
 1. (vs.13) We must avoid sinning with our tongues.
 - a. We are to keep our tongues from evil (1 Peter 2:1).
 - b. We are to refrain from speaking "guile" [deceit] with our lips.
 - c. In Matthew 12:34-37 Jesus talked about using our tongues properly.
 2. (vs.14a) We must *"depart from evil, and do good"* (Romans 12:9b).
 3. (vs.14b) We must *"seek peace, and pursue it"* (Romans 12:18).
 - C. David showed in vs.15-16 that the Lord is aware of how we approach these instructions, and He will reward us accordingly.

Conclusion:

1. In 1 Peter 3:8-12, Peter included David's instructions as he wrote to Christians.
2. Peter showed how Christians face afflictions (1 Peter 1:6-7).
3. However, God will bless those who remain true to Him (1 Peter 5:7, 10).
4. "Let us hearken to David's instructions."