

**Grown Up Prayers**  
**Part 5 - "Lead Me"**  
**May 22, 2022**

**Matthew 6:13**

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

**Psalm 73:1-2**

Surely God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart. But as for me, my feet had almost slipped; I had nearly lost my foothold. For I envied the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

**Psalm 73:13-14**

Surely in vain I have kept my heart pure and have washed my hands in innocence. All day long I have been afflicted, and every morning brings new punishments.

**Adversity doesn't cause bitterness. It reveals [selfishness](#).**

**Psalm 73:16-20**

When I tried to understand all this, it troubled me deeply till I entered the sanctuary of God; then I understood their final destiny. Surely you place them on slippery ground; you cast them down to ruin. How suddenly are they destroyed, completely swept away by terrors! They are like a dream when one awakes; when you arise, Lord, you will despise them as fantasies.

**Psalm 73:21-22**

When my heart was grieved and my spirit embittered, I was senseless and ignorant; I was a brute beast before you.

**Love is an action. Selfishness is a [reaction](#).**

**Psalm 73:23**

Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand.

**Psalm 73:24-26**

You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will take me into glory. Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

**2 Timothy 4:18**

The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

**The bad things will turn out [good](#). The good things cannot be lost. The [best](#) is yet to come.**

**Prayer:**

Heavenly Father, today I will be tempted by evil within me, and there is evil around me. Open my eyes to see the big picture of eternity. Rescue me from every evil attack, from within and from around, and deliver me to your heavenly kingdom. I am your child, so I desire to have your feelings of peace and joy today. No matter my circumstances, may my thoughts and my behaviors be pleasing to you. Amen.

**Group Questions**

1. Tell about a time when you did something “in vain”. What’s the connection between that feeling and your motives in a given situation?
2. When does serving God feel like it’s “in vain”? Does this say anything about your underlying motives?
3. Envy is a common temptation, but it isn’t easy to see in ourselves. What are some clues that we might be experiencing envy?
4. Read Psalm 73:16-20. Are there any words here that help you resist the evil within and the evil around?
5. Have you been praying this week’s prescribed prayer? What have you noticed?
6. There’s only one week left in this series. What has been most helpful for you?