



## Prayer: Psalm 119: 137-144

Year C, Pentecost 24

By Beth Barnett

Reminders about how God's ways are good, right and just	
You will need:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Multiple copies of each line of the psalm printed on a small tag, tied to a piece of string (template attached). Pin these to a cork board display.</li><li>• Full text displayed on screen or print copies for everyone.</li></ul>
Time required:	5-7 minutes

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### Connect

Our psalm today is mostly full of reminders that God's ways are good, right and just ways.

There are two little bits in the middle of these great reminders – about not forgetting. I wonder what you do to remember things?

Talk to the people around you and share what it is that you do to remember things that are important not to forget. Perhaps you leave yourself notes, put reminders on your phone, or the old fashioned piece of string tied to your finger?

Whatever it is you do – tell the people around you.

*Leave a couple of minutes for this. Roam around the conversations and glean some examples. After a few minutes of conversation, re-focus the gathering and invite people to share the best ideas they've just heard.*

## Context

In the psalm, there are some people who do forget the good and right ways of God, the promises and the truth of God, the love and the faithfulness of God – and those people turn into enemies. We can be careful not to turn into enemies ourselves by keeping God's words close.

## Content

However, remembering God's ways isn't too hard for anyone!

In the Psalm, the composer describes themselves as small and despised – no one things much of them. But the ways of God aren't beyond them. You don't need super brains or abilities to know God and to remember God's good ways.

As we pray our psalm for one another and for our world, we want to make sure we don't forget God's goodness. So I invite you to choose a line from this Psalm that you would like to carry close in your remembering this week, and do one or more of the following things:

- put it as a reminder in your phone
- write it on your hand,
- take one of the verses on a string from the cork board as your reminder for the week.

These are simple things. Not hard. Even the smallest of us can be reminded. Let's help each other, and encourage each other in this now. Choose the part of the psalm you are going to be reminded of this week, and choose a way to be reminded, and then tell someone else here which bit it is.

*Allow time for people to do their choosing and remembering.*

Now we are going to read the psalm together – and I invite you to join in on the verse that you have chosen to not forget.



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*Read Psalm 119:137-144. Allow space for all to join as they have chosen.*

**Psalm 119:137-144**

119:137 You are righteous, O LORD, and your judgments are right.

119:138 You have appointed your decrees in righteousness and in all faithfulness.

119:139 My zeal consumes me because my foes forget your words.

119:140 Your promise is well tried, and your servant loves it.

119:141 I am small and despised, yet I do not forget your precepts.

119:142 Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and your law is the truth.

119:143 Trouble and anguish have come upon me, but your commandments are my delight.

119:144 Your decrees are righteous forever; give me understanding that I may live.



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<b>119:137 You are righteous, O LORD, and your judgments are right.</b>	<b>119:137 You are righteous, O LORD, and your judgments are right.</b>	<b>119:137 You are righteous, O LORD, and your judgments are right.</b>
<b>119:138 You have appointed your decrees in righteousness and in all faithfulness.</b>	<b>119:138 You have appointed your decrees in righteousness and in all faithfulness.</b>	<b>119:138 You have appointed your decrees in righteousness and in all faithfulness.</b>
<b>119:139 My zeal consumes me because my foes forget your words.</b>	<b>119:139 My zeal consumes me because my foes forget your words.</b>	<b>119:139 My zeal consumes me because my foes forget your words.</b>
<b>119:140 Your promise is well tried, and your servant loves it.</b>	<b>119:140 Your promise is well tried, and your servant loves it.</b>	<b>119:140 Your promise is well tried, and your servant loves it.</b>
<b>119:141 I am small and despised, yet I do not forget your precepts.</b>	<b>119:141 I am small and despised, yet I do not forget your precepts.</b>	<b>119:141 I am small and despised, yet I do not forget your precepts.</b>
<b>119:142 Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and your law is the truth.</b>	<b>119:142 Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and your law is the truth.</b>	<b>119:142 Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and your law is the truth.</b>
<b>119:143 Trouble and anguish have come upon me, but your commandments are my delight.</b>	<b>119:143 Trouble and anguish have come upon me, but your commandments are my delight.</b>	<b>119:143 Trouble and anguish have come upon me, but your commandments are my delight.</b>
<b>119:144 Your decrees are righteous forever; give me understanding that I may live.</b>	<b>119:144 Your decrees are righteous forever; give me understanding that I may live.</b>	<b>119:144 Your decrees are righteous forever; give me understanding that I may live.</b>

