

Psalm 139 Series - Part 4

MADE BY GOD

**Discovering God's
Design for Your Life**

Psalm 139:19-24



The popular cultural idea that “you must discover or define your own identity”, while sounding empowering, is in fact, deeply harmful for several reasons. It shifts the foundation of identity from God as Creator to the self as creator, which leads to confusion, pressure, and ultimately spiritual disconnection.



BIG IDEA

God invites us into raw honesty - not just with Him, but with ourselves, so He can heal what's broken, fix what's wrong, and lead us into freedom.

Talking Points

- 1. When you love what is holy and beautiful, you can't help but hate what destroys it (vv. 19-22).**

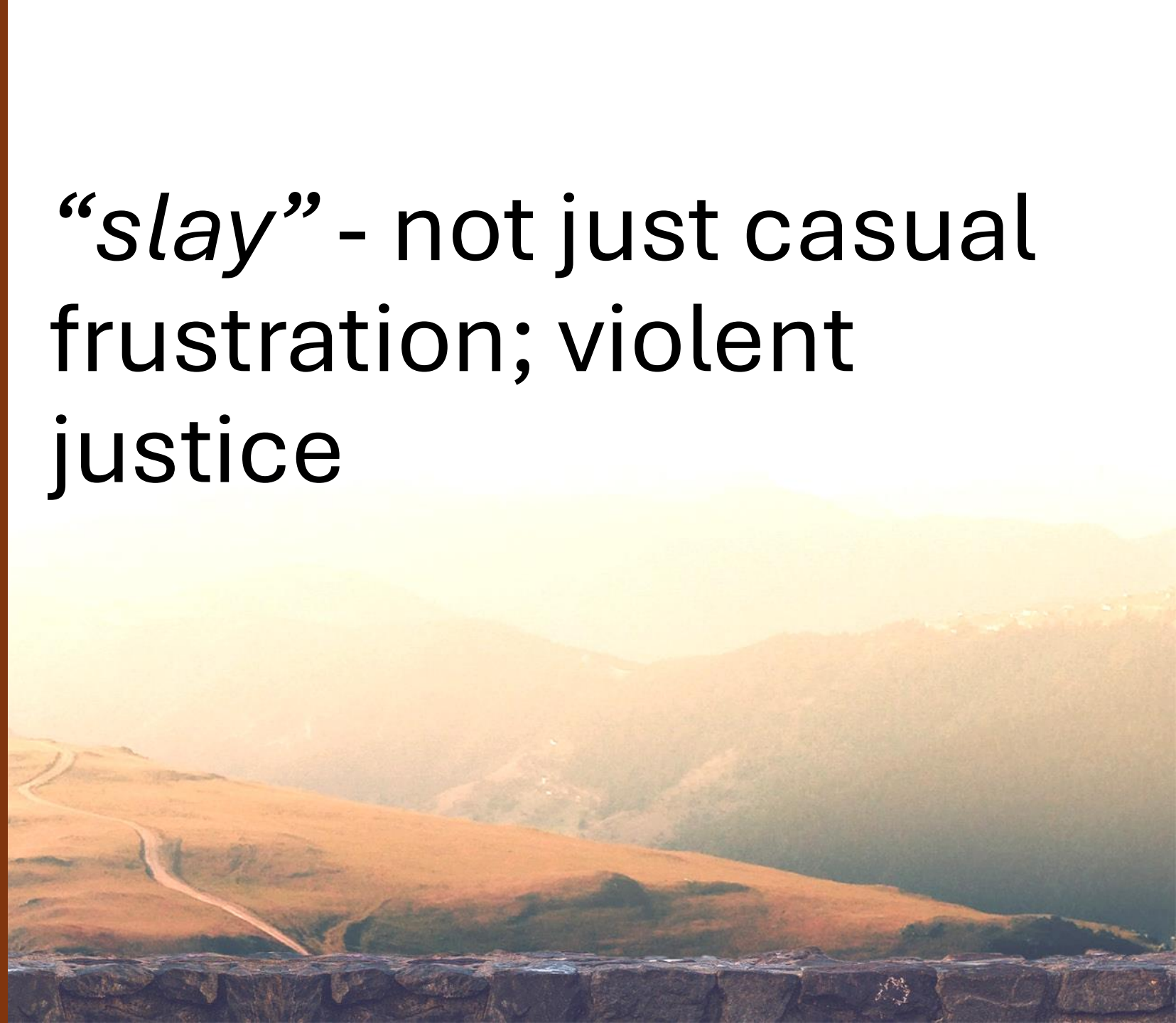
Psalm 139:19-24



19) Surely thou wilt
slay the wicked, O
God: depart from me
therefore, ye bloody
men.

20) For they speak
against thee
wickedly, and thine
enemies take thy
name in vain.

“*slay*” - not just casual
frustration; violent
justice



19) Surely thou wilt slay the wicked, O God: depart from me therefore, ye bloody men.

20) For they speak against thee wickedly, and thine enemies take thy name in vain.

“bloody men” - those who destroy lives and spread injustice

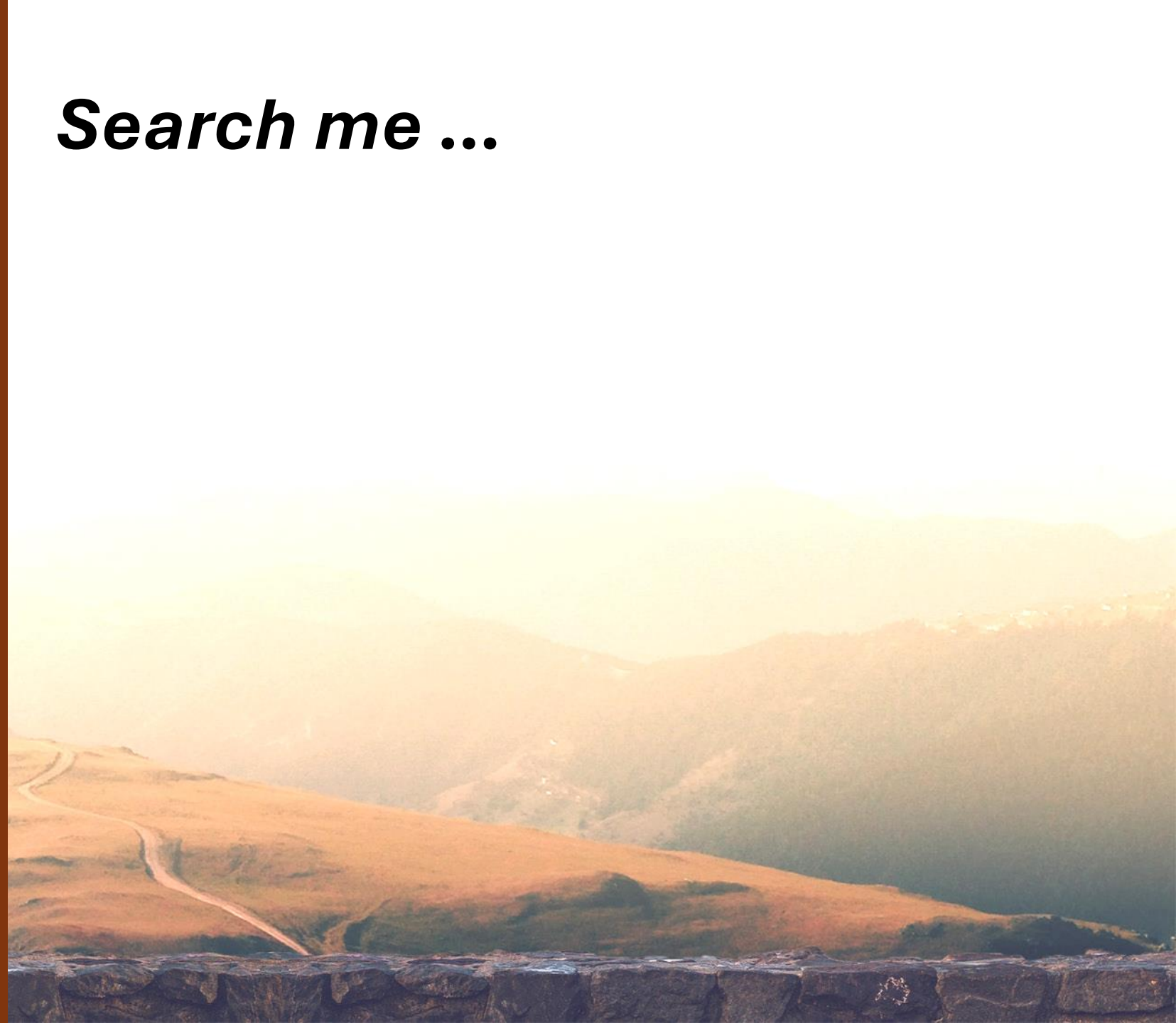
David:

- *“I’m sick of a world that mocks the God who made it”*
- *“My heart grieves to look around our world and see people, created in the image of God, treated unjustly”*

23) Search me, O
God, and know my
heart: try me, and
know my thoughts.

24) And see if there
be any wicked way in
me, and lead me in
the way everlasting.

Search me ...



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Search me ...

Try me ...



23) Search me, O
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the way everlasting.

Search me ...

- **God wants to heal what's broken.**

Try me ...

- **God wants to fix what's wrong.**

Lead me ...

- **God wants to lead us into freedom.**

23) Search me, O
God, and know my
heart: try me, and
know my thoughts.

24) And see if there
be any wicked way in
me, and lead me in
the way everlasting.

“*search*” - to examine
deeply, to dig into
• *It's not a casual look – it's*
spiritual excavation.



Talking Points

- 1. When you love what is holy and beautiful, you can't help but hate what destroys it (vv. 19-22).**
- 2. AUTHENTICITY – God wants your real self, not your filtered self (vs. 23).**
- 3. God doesn't expose us to shame us – He searches us to transform us (vv. 23-24).**

Psalm 139:19-24



23) Search me, O
God, and know my
heart: try me, and
know my **thoughts**.

24) And see if there
be any wicked way in
me, and lead me in
the way everlasting.

“*thoughts*” - anxious
thoughts

- *Literally, disquieting or disturbing thoughts*
- *Inner turmoil, obsessive worries, emotional noise*

23) Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my **thoughts**.

24) And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

What are we asking God to search?

- Ask God to reveal blind spots—your motives, bitterness, hidden pride.
- Let Him test your anxious thoughts—your fears, insecurities, and identity struggles.
- Be humble enough to let God do spiritual surgery, not just give pep talks.

23) Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts.

24) And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

“wicked way” - the way of pain or grief; the destructive way of life

“way everlasting” - poetic expression for the eternal, God-honoring way of life

Talking Points

- 1. When you love what is holy and beautiful, you can't help but hate what destroys it (vv. 19-22).**
- 2. AUTHENTICITY – God wants your real self, not your filtered self (vs. 23).**
- 3. God doesn't expose us to shame us – He searches us to transform us (vv. 23-24).**
- 4. You can't trust Google Maps for your soul (vs. 24); only God can lead you to the “way everlasting.”**

Psalm 139:19-24



1. I say *(or have said)* I am unlovable, but God says I am forever loved. *(Romans 8:38-39)*
2. I say *(or have said)* I am scarred but God says I am healed *(Isaiah 53:5)*
3. I say I am weak, but God says He makes me strong. *(Psalm 18:32)*
4. I recognize I am a sinner, but God says I am forgiven. *(1 John 2:12)*
5. I was abandoned, but God says I am adopted. *(Ephesians 1:5)*

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6. I say I am broken, but God says He makes me whole.
(*Colossians 2:10*)
7. I have been rejected, but God says I am His! (*Isaiah 43:1*)
8. I say I am alone, but God says He is always with me.
(*Joshua 1:9*)
9. I say I am hopeless, but God says because of Him, I am hopeful. (*Jeremiah 29:11*)
10. I say I am a lost cause, but God says I was created with purpose. (*Esther 4:14*)

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11. I say I have failed, but God says I am victorious in Christ.
(1 Corinthians 15:57)

12. I say I am lost, but God says He gives me direction.
(Isaiah 30:21)

13. I say I am worried, anxious, or afraid, but God says with Him I am peace-filled. *(John 14:27)*

14. I say I am unhappy, but God says I am joyful/joy-filled.
(John 15:11)

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15. I say I am afraid, but God says I am powerful, loved, and have a sound mind. (2 Timothy 1:7)

16. I say I am nothing special, but God says I am fearfully and wonderfully made. (Psalm 139:14)

17. I say I am worthless, but God says Jesus died because I am worth it. (John 3:16)

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**Have you been going your own way?
Taking your own path?**

***“There is a way which seems right
unto a man, but the end thereof are
the ways of death.” Proverbs 14:12***



Have you been going your own way?

Taking your own path?

“Enter in at the narrow gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leads to destruction, and many there be which go in there: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leads unto life, and few there be that find it.”

Matthew 7:13-14

