

SUNDAY MORNING – Pastor B. Elshout  
10-01-2023

Pre-service Psalter 222:4, 5\*\*

Silent Congregational Prayer

Votum and Salutation

Psalter 399:3, 4\*\*

Reading of the Law: Exodus 20:1-20

Psalter 428:2\*\*

Scripture Reading: Ezekiel 33:1-20

Congregational Prayer

Offerings for the Lord's service (2 collections)

Psalter 415:2-4\*\*

Text: Ezekiel 33:11

Theme: Jehovah Declares His Pleasure

1. *A wondrous reality*

2. *An absolute certainty*

3. *An amazing plea*

Prayer

Psalter 233:3, 6\*\*

Benediction

Doxology: Psalter 315\*\*

\*\* Please stand if enabled

1. Why is it so amazing that God has a message of grace and mercy for the people to whom He is speaking?
2. Why is the word “wicked” such a sobering description of who we are as sinners?
- 3\*. Why is the cross of Calvary the best proof that God has no pleasure in the death of the wicked?
4. How does our text assure us that God will be gracious to repenting sinners?
5. What is the rich and encouraging meaning of the words “As I live...”?
- 6\*. How is God demonstrating today that He also has no pleasure in your death?
7. Why does God plead so passionately with sinners to turn from their evil ways?
8. Why is it so encouraging that God gives what He demands?

***Question for Self-reflection***

# Have you taken God at His Word and turned from your evil way?

**Family Sermon Discussion Questions:**

*SUNDAY EVENING – Pastor B. Elshout  
10-01-2023*

Pre-service Psalter 398:1, 2\*\*

Silent Congregational Prayer

Votum and Salutation

Psalter 251: All\*\*

Scripture Reading: 2 Cor. 11:29-33; 12:1-10

Confessions: *Nicene Creed*

Congregational Prayer

Offerings for the Lord's service (2 collections)

Psalter 329: All\*\*

**Text: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10**

**Theme: Christ's Words of Encouragement**

**1. The occasion for this encouragement**

**2. The substance of this encouragement**

**3. The fruit of this encouragement**

Prayer

Psalter 187: All\*\*

Benediction

Doxology: Psalter 316\*\*

\*\* *Please stand if enabled*

2. Why has the Holy Spirit withheld from us the exact nature of this thorn?
3. Why does Christ still give believers thorns in the flesh?
4. Why did Christ deny Paul's request for the removal of his thorn?
- 5\*. Why is it so precious that Christ promises strength and grace to Paul—and to all believers?
6. What rich benefit do believers derive from their infirmities and trials?
7. List some of the specific benefits Paul derived from his “thorn in the flesh”?
8. What does Paul mean when he says, “When I am weak, then am I strong”?

***Question for Self-reflection***

# Have you learned to thank God for your trials & afflictions?

\* *Questions for younger children*

1\*. Why did Christ give (!) Paul a thorn in his flesh?