



Sunday Sermon Study Guide - April 14
Mike Haynes-Director of Student Ministries
The Power of a Name: *Jehovah Ezer (God My Helper)*
Psalm 33:13-20 - Hebrews 13:5-6

Don't love money; be satisfied with what you have. For God has said, "I will never fail you. I will never abandon you." 6 So we can say with confidence, "The LORD is my helper (boéthos), so I will have no fear. What can mere people do to me? 7Remember your leaders who taught you the word of God. Think of all the good that has come from their lives, and follow the example of their faith. Hebrews 13:5-7 (NLT)

The LORD looks down from heaven and sees the whole human race. 14From his throne he observes all who live on the earth. 15He made their hearts, so he understands everything they do. 16The best-equipped army cannot save a king, nor is great strength enough to save a warrior. 17Don't count on your warhorse to give you victory—for all its strength, it cannot save you. 18But the LORD watches over those who fear him, those who rely on his unfailing love. 19He rescues them from death and keeps them alive in times of famine. 20We put our hope in the LORD. He is our help (ezer) and our shield. Psalm 33:13-20 (NLT)

A Life Application Study Guide

James 1:22-25 tells us to put into practice what we are discovering in God's word.

DISCUSSION POINTS

1. Mike climbs right into the boat with us: today's topic is something he personally is experiencing along with many of us.
 - What do we do when our reality is not lining up with our expectations? Do we begin to question ourselves or do we question God and his concern for us?
 - When things fall apart, when the X's and O's don't line up in your life experiences, what is your first thought? What is your first go to action? Fixing it yourself or asking God to be a part of the effort and the solution?

- Where do you look in scripture for faith examples and for hope?

4. What is God's perspective or vantage point in Psalm 33?

- “*He understands everything they do.*” Everyone could use a helper in their lives, but what would it be like to have a *Helper* who knows you intimately?
- If the well-equipped army, the warrior's strength, or the *warhorse* cannot save us, who can save us (and answer our deepest questions)?
- Verses 18 and 19 say that God **watches**, **rescues**, and **keeps** us. What do these verses tell us about God? How might this provide comfort in the midst of chaos?

- In last week's message, pastor Brian asked us to shift our focus. Today Mike asks us to consider where we put our hope and where do we go for help? *Jehovah Ezer* is the only one with the power to reshape your reality, how will you allow Him to fill that role?

Making It Real

This week practice going to God first with a request for help before attempting to do something only yourself. Record the outcome.

