

PSALMS



DELIGHT IN THE WORD

A STUDY THROUGH THE PSALMS ABOUT
GOD'S WORD AND GOD'S SON

PSALMS

DELIGHT
IN THE WORD

This book belongs to

GOSPEL CITY CHURCH

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Overview & Guide		04
Introduction		09
WEEK 01	Psalms 1-2: Delight in God's Word and God's Son	12
WEEK 02	Psalms 3-4: Delight in the King of Creation	30
WEEK 03	Psalms 15-16: Delight in the Blameless One	46
WEEK 04	Psalms 19-20: Delight in God's Word and God's Word	60
WEEK 05	Psalms 22-23: Delight in the Resurrected King	72
WEEK 06	Psalms 23-24: Delight in the King of Glory	86
WEEK 07	Psalms 72-73: Delight in the Son of David	100
WEEK 08	Psalms 110-111: Delight in David's Lord, the Eternal King Priest	114
WEEK 09	Psalms 118-119: Delight in Yahweh's Cornerstone	128
WEEK 10	Psalms 119: Delight in Yahweh's Life-Giving Law	146
Appendix A	Scripture Memorization	160

OVERVIEW

The goal of everything we do at Gospel City is to make disciples of Jesus in the context of the local church for the fame of the name of King Jesus. A disciple is a learner, a follower, and a student. And when it comes to being a disciple, the goal of learning/following is not simply to affirm or intellectually agree with the One we follow; the goal is to become like the One we follow. We want to think like He thinks, believe what He believes, love what He loves, and do what He does so that we can be who He is. Everyone is a disciple of someone, the question is who? As Christians (i.e., “little Christs”) we are called by Jesus to follow Jesus so that we become like Jesus for the glory of Jesus.

But this begs the question, how can we (sinners saved by grace) become like Jesus (the perfect, sinless God-man)? No amount of effort, good works, or law keeping could possibly enable a fallen sinner to become like Jesus. But this is where the good news of the gospel comes in. For through the gospel God has promised to recreate sinners into the image of Christ, not through our effort or works but through faith in Christ’s work. And this faith is fed and nurtured by hearing/studying/learning the Word of God. As Paul says in Romans 10:17, “Faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the Word of Christ.”

That is where these Bible studies come in. If the aim of everything we do is to be disciples and make disciples of Christ, and if disciples of Christ are made by hearing and believing the Word of Christ, then we at Gospel City must study the Word of God and be lifelong learners, lovers, and obeyers of the Word of God! The goal of these Bible studies is to equip you to do just that. For God’s Word is to the soul what food is to the body. It is sweeter than honey and more precious than gold. It contains all we need for life and godliness. It is holy, perfect, and all together true. It has the power to raise the dead and sanctify sinners into the image of Christ. And as you are better equipped to study, love, and obey God’s Word you will not only grow in your personal discipleship, you will be better equipped to make disciples of all nations by teaching others to obey all that Christ has commanded so that they too can be transformed into the image of Christ by receiving the gospel promises in faith.

PARTICIPANT USER GUIDE

UNDERSTANDING HOW TO USE THIS WORKBOOK

With this goal in mind, we have divided each week's personal study time into three steps: (Step 01) Observe, (Step 02) Interpret, and (Step 03) Reflect & Apply. Each of the three steps will include guidance in how to pray over what you *will* study and how to respond to what you *did* study. Here are some tips for how to approach each step:

STEP 01 / OBSERVE

Before we try to observe, we need to pray. Psalm 119:18 should be the posture of our hearts every time we open our Bibles. Bible study is so much more than an intellectual exercise. Apart from God's grace we will not have eyes to see or a heart that understands.

With that said, good readers are good question-askers. So as you read, be asking questions of the text. Every word is inspired. Every detail matters. The goal of the observation questions is not to get you to answer the question; the goal is to act as a diving board that helps to get you thinking about the text.

Therefore, allow the observation questions to guide you into more questions. Rest assured that you will never observe everything that there is to observe. The wisdom and glory of the Word of God is a bottomless ocean. Keep looking. There is always more to see.

STEP 02 / INTERPRET

This might be the longest step in your study each week—but that is a good thing. A microwave easy button for understanding the Word of God does not exist. Interpreting the Bible requires prayerful critical thinking in reliance upon the Holy Spirit, just as Paul encouraged Timothy, “Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.”

(2 Timothy 2:7)

With that said, the goal in this step will be to start to interpret the passage in its proper context. When it comes to Bible interpretation, context is king. Therefore, always be asking, “How does it fit?” How does this sentence fit with the one that comes before it? How does this paragraph/ chapter fit in the context of the letter as a whole? How do the doctrines and themes in this passage fit in the metanarrative of Scripture? Asking these interpretive questions is the key to beholding the glory of the divine logic of the Word.

In order to guide you in these interpretive questions each week we will provide *Zoom Out* and *Zoom In* questions. Zoom out to see how the author is drawing upon themes and doctrines in the one unified story of the Bible, then zoom back in to see how what the author is saying fits in the immediate context and develops the overall argument. Just as climbing mountains gives one epic views of the vast countryside, each *Zoom Out* section will provide “observation decks” that overlook the grand narrative of the epic story of the Bible so that we can have perspective regarding how each specific passage fits into the whole.

In order to help you do this, we have provided you with a copy of cross references and highlighted important connections. This will help you interpret Scripture with Scripture so that you can discern the one intended meaning of the divine Author.

STEP 03 / REFLECT & APPLY

Reflecting encourages us to be curious about what this particular scripture means in the context of our own journey. We have seen how the passage fits into the story of Scripture, but now we take time to consider how our lives fit into the story. We’ll consider questions like “What is God telling me about Himself here?” and “What is God telling me about myself here?” Reflecting is a step toward allowing the Word of God to change us. We take the truth and personally interact with it.

It is tempting to skim through reflection, but we want to encourage you to give this step time. Reflection is meant to give you space to sit with the Word in a personal way. Reflection often exposes us, bringing us face to face with our own sin or stirring up new convictions we’ve never had. Be prayerfully intentional with this time—you’ve carved this space out to meet with the Lord.

Reflection should also lead us toward change. As we take what we have learned from the Word and hold it up next to our own lives, we are likely confronted with opportunities to grow. Though it may be uncomfortable, conviction is always an invitation to lean into where the Lord is leading you. You'll be asked in Step 03 to consider what God is asking you to do, and you'll be asked to do it. We open God's Word so that by the power of His Spirit we can be changed. Let's embrace the work He is doing.

RESPOND IN PRAYER /

Reflecting will often lead us to respond in prayer. As we open our Bible and read the words God has for us, our response should be reflection, worship, and prayer. We suggest that prayer be done with an open Bible whenever possible. What better vocabulary to use when talking to God than the very words He inspired!

During this time, find what works best for you. You may want to keep a prayer journal or write out a few specific things you want to remember to pray over. You might want to review what you are praying over and take a walk as you respond.

The Prayer section of each week follows the same pattern: praise, admit, request, thanksgiving. You'll be given specific prompts to do each step from the psalm you have been studying.

PRACTICING DELIGHT /

One of the desired outcomes of studying God's Word is that you would truly delight in it. We often think of delight as something that comes naturally. But to deeply enjoy and appreciate anything, you have to spend time returning to it, to take it in from every angle and to carry the memory of it with you throughout your day. To help you delight in God's Word, we have built in opportunities to put it into practice. When we delight in the Scriptures, we take the time to ponder why it is good, meditate on what it means, allow the things we have thought about God in our minds to root into our hearts, and allow it to do the work of transformation. It's like savoring, coming back to it again and again and always wanting another taste.

As you are given opportunities to practice delight, there may be a specific way that brings you deeper enjoyment with God. It might be meditation, memorization, prayer and pondering, journaling, or simply a few deep breaths as you finish your time with Him. Take notice of how you personally delight in the Word, and consider adding that specific practice to your study.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WEEKLY GATHERING

Every week, following your dedicated personal study of the Word, we will gather together with a shared purpose—to “stir up one another to love and good works” (Hebrews 10:24-25). Our collective aim during these gatherings is to minister the Word to each other so that we can collectively grow in maturity toward Christ who is our Head.

TEACHING /

We will begin each week with a time of dedicated teaching, sitting under the authority of the preached Word. Our teaching times will model how to faithfully exposit and apply the Word.

TABLE DISCUSSIONS /

One of the best ways to grow in what you are learning is by telling others. There is much we can learn from each other’s walk with Jesus. After each teaching time, we will break into table groups for applicational discussion and prayer.

These will be active spaces to engage each other with what was gleaned in your personal study and to respond to what was taught that day. It will also be a time to encourage obedience and accountability to what the text is teaching and reproving us in. Be open and vulnerable. Anchored in the scriptural text, share what God is doing in your life. Everyone is expected to participate, but be mindful to not dominate the conversation.

We’ll close each time in prayer together. Praise God for who He is, repent to one another, ask the Lord to continue to work in you, and yield the results to Him.

INTRO
TO THE



STUDY OF
PSALMS

INTRODUCTION TO THE PSALTER

The book of Psalms is a collection of poems, songs, and prayers. It includes prayers of lament and songs of praise. It is honest about the full spectrum of human emotion. And it is explicitly God-centered, as it teaches readers to shape their emotions through the theological lens of the sovereign God of the universe, who has promised to bless the nations and crush evil through the Davidic Messianic King. All this comes together to form one of the most beloved and important books in the Bible. The book contains 150 psalms, and 129 of them are quoted or alluded to in the New Testament. The Psalms are great to read, pray, memorize, and sing. Indeed, blessed is the man who delights in the Psalms of the Lord.

Being a collection of poems, songs, and prayers, the Psalms are considered part of the wisdom literature in the Old Testament. But contrary to popular belief, the book of Psalms is not a random collection of writings thrown together as a mere spiritual encyclopedia meant to encourage readers in the emotional highs and lows of life. No, the book of Psalms is so much more than this! As we will see, the book of Psalms is—a book! It is like any other book with an introduction, main characters, a developing plot line, and a coherent trajectory. Each psalm can stand alone as a theological and poetic masterpiece, but the Psalms come together in such a way that it is clear that they have been very intentionally ordered with the intent of causing readers to reflect on the history of God’s faithfulness in the lives of God’s people to build the anticipation of His promised salvation through His Messiah. Thus, the perspective of the psalmists is that theology is so relevant to your personal situation that your emotions can be shaped from lament to praise if you delight in the law of the Lord and put your hope in His Son.

According to James Hamilton's commentary on the Psalms, the book has four main characters: (1) Yahweh, (2) Messiah, (3) the Righteous, and (4) the Wicked. Yahweh is the main character of the book. Most of the Psalms praise His character, rehearse history to praise His mighty deeds, or petition Him in prayer. Yahweh's world is in rebellion against Him. The Messiah is the one who will come as the hero through whom Yahweh will rescue His people, crush the wicked, and reestablish His reign.

God's people are those who embrace Yahweh as God, trust His promises, obey His Word, and put their hope in the coming King from David's line. The wicked do the opposite. "They do not take Yahweh as their God, believe what Yahweh has said, follow Yahweh's instructions, trust Yahweh's character, or submit to Yahweh's king. Whether they worship themselves, idols, or something else, they do not love God or his people. This puts them in constant conflict with God, his purposes, and his people" (74).

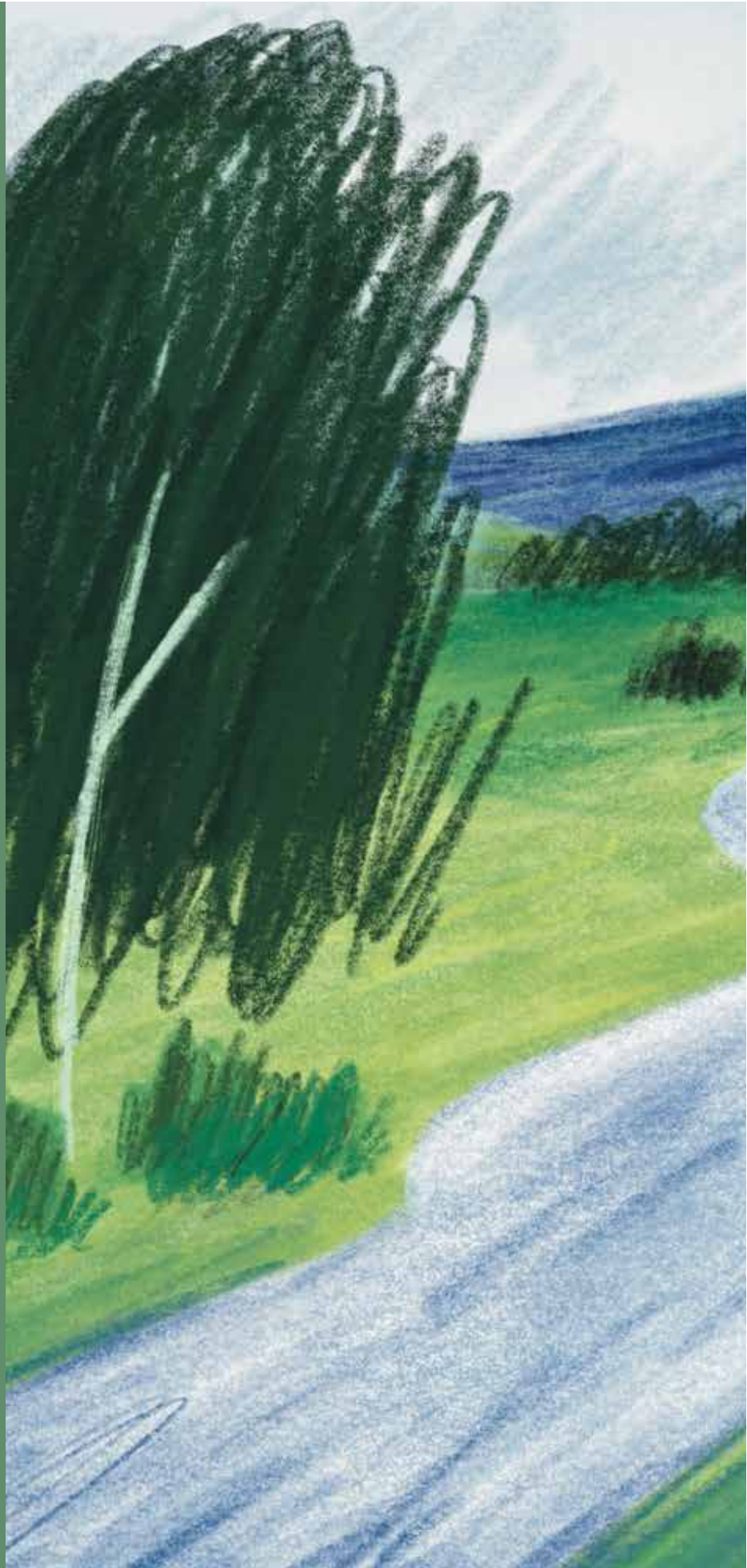
INTRODUCTION TO THIS STUDY OF MESSIANIC PSALMS

The goal of this Bible study is to help us delight in God's Word by seeing how it all comes together to reveal the glory of God's Son. The way we will do this is by focusing on the Psalms that are explicitly Messianic. We will study how each Messianic Psalm fits in the surrounding context of other Psalms, the rest of the Old Testament, and is ultimately fulfilled in Jesus. And as a result, our hearts will join the apostle John in his prayer, "Come, Lord Jesus, come" as we long for the King described in the Psalter to come again and establish His Kingdom.

WEEK 01

Delight in the Word (Week One)

*A Study Through Psalms About
God's Word And God's Son*



WEEK 01

DELIGHT IN GOD'S WORD AND GOD'S SON

BEFORE EACH STEP

PRAY

Psalms 119:18

MEMORIZE

Psalms 1:1

READ

Psalms 1-2

STEP 01

OBSERVE

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALMS 1-2

- 01 |** After your first read through the passage, what are some initial observations that stick out to you? (If you need help making observations, here are some things to look for: What is prompting the Psalmist to write what he is writing? What is he writing about? What is the Psalmist's view of God? Are there any repeating words or themes? Does this passage have any clear connections to other passages in the Bible?)

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 1

- 02 |** What does this passage say about the blessed man? What does he do/not do? What is he *like*?

03 | What does this passage say about the wicked? What do they do/not do?
What are they *like*?

04 | What does the psalm say about the future destiny of the righteous and
the wicked?

05 | Ponder: Why is the blessed man in v1-3 *singular*, but the righteous in
v5-6 *plural*? What does this imply about the identity of the blessed man?

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 2

- 06 | What does this passage say about God? What does it say about God's King/Anointed One/Son?**
- 07 | What does this passage say about the kings and rulers of the earth? Specifically note what it says about how they relate to God and His King.**
- 08 | According to Psalm 2, what characterizes the people who are on the way to perishing? What characterizes those who are blessed?**

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALMS 1-2 AGAIN

- 09 | Highlight all (there are many) of the repeated words in Psalms 1-2.
- 10 | Consider Psalms 1-2 together. What are the defining characteristics that distinguish the righteous from the wicked?

PRACTICING DELIGHT

What do you delight in? The Psalmist tells us that a person who delights and meditates on the law will be blessed—or another way to say that—truly happy. When we delight in something, we experience the goodness that is already there. We savor it and let the experience wash over us.

Today, as you have considered Psalms 1-2, choose one of the observations that you made in your study, meditate on it, and ask the Lord to help you delight in what you see. Savor this truth and let the experience wash over you.

STEP 02

INTERPRET

ZOOM IN / 01

COMMENTARY

If you have not yet read the introduction to the Psalms on pages 9-11 of this workbook, make sure to do so before attempting to complete step 2. Psalms 1-2 are widely considered to be an introduction to the book of Psalms. In these two psalms, readers meet the four main characters of the book: Yahweh, Messiah, the righteous, and the wicked. The rest of the Psalms go out of their way to consistently echo or expound upon words and themes from these first two psalms, as we will see throughout this study. As the introduction, Psalms 1-2 are written in such a way that they interpret

each other. They are meant to be read together as a joint introduction to the rest of the Psalms.

As we begin our journey of delighting in God's Son through delighting in His Word, let us not merely take someone else's word for it. Let us seek to see for ourselves how Psalms 1-2 fit together, interpret each other, and form an epic introduction to this epic book. So the first thing we need to do to interpret Psalms 1-2 is consider how they are meant to be read as one.

CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING CROSS REFERENCES ON PAGE 20

- 01 | Use these psalms to interpret each other. According to Psalms 1-2, who are the blessed and who are not?**

02 | According to these psalms, what is the “counsel of the wicked”? What type of counsel do wicked people give?

03 | Putting these psalms together, what do they say about “the way”? And what seems to determine the way of the righteous vs. the way of the wicked?

04 | Bonus: Read Psalm 3 and consider how it draws upon the words and themes of Psalms 1-2 (there are at least five examples).

CROSS REFERENCES

PSALM 1:1 / Blessed is the man.

PSALM 2:12 / Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

PSALM 1:1 / Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked.

PSALM 2:2 / The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against his Anointed.

PSALM 1:1 / Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners.

PSALM 1:5-6 / Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; “for the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

PSALM 2:12 / Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

PSALM 1:1 / Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers.

PSALM 2:4 / He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision.

PSALM 1:2 / But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.

PSALM 2:1 / Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?

The Hebrew word translated as “meditates” in 1:2 is the same Hebrew word translated as “plot” in 2:1. The blessed man meditates on the law of the Lord while the wicked meditate on vanity. More specifically, their futile meditations are focused on how to rebel against God and overthrow the rule of His Christ. The contrast could not be more stark.

ZOOM OUT / 01

COMMENTARY

In the *Zoom In 01*, we saw that Psalms 1-2 are meant to be read together as one. Psalm 1 begins where Psalm 2 ends by considering the path of blessing. Both psalms contrast the way of blessing with the way that leads to eternal perishing. Both contrast what the wicked meditate on vs. what the blessed man meditates on. And together, the two psalms introduce the four main characters of the book.

In these next two *Zoom Out* questions, we will consider the identity of those mentioned in these psalms. Who is the blessed man? And who is the King that God has set on His throne? And who are the so-called righteous people who are known by the LORD and take refuge in the Son?

CONSIDER THE CROSS REFERENCES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

- 05 | What are the connections and similarities between God's ideal King/leader (see Deuteronomy 17 and Joshua 1 in the cross references) and the blessed man in Psalm 1? Summarize the connections in your own words.**
- 06 | There are similarities between Deuteronomy 17, Joshua 1, and Psalm 1, but there is also a clear distinction. In Deuteronomy 17 and Joshua 1, the kings/leaders are commanded about what to do and not to do, and their prosperity is conditional on their obedience. But in Psalm 1, the blessed man's flawless obedience is portrayed as a given. He never succumbs to the counsel of the wicked; he is constantly delighting in God's law, and "in all that he does he prospers." What does the blessed man's flawless obedience imply about his identity? Do you know anyone that Psalm 1:1-3 describes? Explain.**

CROSS REFERENCES

DEUTERONOMY 17:14-20 / “When you come to the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you possess it and dwell in it and then say, ‘I will set a king over me, like all the nations that are around me,’¹⁵ you may indeed set a king over you whom the Lord your God will choose. One from among your brothers you shall set as king over you. You may not put a foreigner over you who is not your brother. ¹⁶Only he must not acquire many horses for himself or cause the people to return to Egypt in order to acquire many horses, since the Lord has said to you, ‘You shall never return that way again.’¹⁷And he shall not acquire many wives for himself, lest his heart turn away, nor shall he acquire for himself excessive silver and gold.¹⁸“And when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself in a book a copy of this law, approved by the Levitical priests.¹⁹And it shall be with him, and he shall read in it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the Lord his God by keeping all the words of this law and these statutes, and doing them,²⁰that his heart may not be lifted up above his brothers, and that he may not turn aside from the commandment, either to the right hand or to the left, so that he may continue long in his kingdom, he and his children, in Israel.”

PSALM 1:1-2 / Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; ²but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.

Specifically consider the three things kings are commanded not to do in Deuteronomy 17 and the one thing they are commanded to do, and compare these with the three negatives and one positive in Psalm 1:1-3.

JOSHUA 1:7-8 / Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. ⁸This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

PSALM 1:2-3 / His delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. ³He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

COMMENTARY

In *Zoom Out 01*, we began to ponder the identity of the blessed man in Psalm 1. Is Psalm 1:1-3 a generic reference to godly people in general? Or is it a specific reference to a specific man? Or in a way, could the answer be yes to both?

With these questions in mind, we need to remember what we learned in question 01,

which is that Psalms 1-2 interpret each other. So, before we can be certain about the identity of the blessed man from Psalm 1, we ought to consider the identity of the Son in Psalm 2. This is the next step in interpreting these two psalms.

CONSIDER THE CROSS REFERENCES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

- 07 | These cross references contain some of the most foundational and important prophecies about the Messiah in the Bible. With these prophecies in mind, consider Psalm 2:6-9. According to Psalm 2, how will the King that is described fulfill the prophecies that were written before Psalm 2? Summarize the connections in your own words.**
- 08 | What do these connections reveal about the identity of the King that is described in Psalm 2?**
- 09 | According to the New Testament, how is Jesus the fulfillment of what is prophesied in Psalm 2?**

CROSS REFERENCES

PSALM 2:9 / “You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”

GENESIS 3:15 / “I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

GENESIS 49:10 / The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.

NUMBERS 24:17 / I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel; it shall crush the forehead of Moab and break down all the sons of Sheth.

PSALM 2:8 / Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.

GENESIS 1:28 / And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion.”

GENESIS 12:3 / “I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

Also see who is blessed according to Psalm 2:12.

PSALM 2:6-7 / “As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.” I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, “You are my Son; today I have begotten you.”

2 SAMUEL 7:12-14 / When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after

you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son.

ACTS 4:24-28 / And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, “Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them, ²⁵who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit, “Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples plot in vain?” ²⁶The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers were gathered together, against the Lord and against his Anointed”²⁷for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, ²⁸to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place.”

ACTS 13:32-33 / And we bring you the good news that what God promised to the fathers, ³³this he has fulfilled to us their children by raising Jesus, as also it is written in the second Psalm, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you.”

HEBREWS 1:3-5 / After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. ⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”? Or again, “I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son”?

COMMENTARY

In *Zoom Out 02*, we confirmed that the King in Psalm 2 is Messiah Jesus. In *Zoom In 01*, we confirmed that Psalms 1-2 interpret each other. We have also seen that both psalms talk about an ideal individual leader/king (the blessed man in Psalm 1 and the Son in Psalm 2) as well as a congregation of righteous people.

With these connections in mind, let's consider how Psalm 2 can help shed light on the identity of the blessed man in Psalm 1 as well as the congregation of righteous people who are known by the Lord on the day of judgment.

CONSIDER THE CROSS REFERENCES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

10 | According to Psalms 1-2, who is blessed? Who are the righteous? How does one "take refuge" in the Son?

11 | Is the blessed man from Psalm 1 and the Son from Psalm 2 the same person? Why or why not?

CROSS REFERENCES

PSALM 1:1 / Blessed is the man.

“man” is singular

PSALM 1:5-6 / Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; “for the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

“the righteous” is plural

PSALM 2:12 / Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

The Son is singular. But the “all” who take refuge in Him is plural.

PRACTICING DELIGHT

Because Jesus is the righteous King, when we identify with Him, we receive the blessed life. Imagine yourself planted by a stream of water, much like abiding in the vine. Your life and fruit are a result of resting in His goodness. Delight in the blessings of abiding in Christ. How has He brought forth life and fruit as you have meditated on His Word?

HIS DELIGHT
IS IN THE LAW
OF THE LORD,



AND ON HIS LAW
HE MEDITATES
DAY AND NIGHT

STEP 03

REFLECT & APPLY

- 01 | Reflect on the word *delight*. Think about the things you take delight in and compare that feeling to how you feel about God's Word. In what ways do you desire to grow in your delight of God's law?

- 02 | Consider the way of the blessed man? How have you fallen short of living according to the way of the blessed man?

- 03 | If the way of the blessed man is impossible, then how can we be counted blessed? (2:12) How is this a relief to us today?

04 | As we are counted righteous, how can we imitate the way of the blessed and find blessing in return?

05 | Psalm 1:2 talks of the blessed man meditating day and night. What does that look like practically in your life?

RESPOND IN PRAYER

Read Psalms 1-2 out loud. As you read, notice what portion stands out to you. Take a few moments to meditate on this passage. Why does it stand out to you? What is it teaching you about God?

Thank God for His Word. Tell Him the parts of Psalms 1-2 that you find delight in!

Confess where you have lived the way of the wicked, admitting the wicked counsel, way of sinners, and company of scoffers that you have found yourself among. Repent of the ways you have set yourself against Him.

Ask for His help to find delight in His Word. Ask Him to teach you to plant yourself near His streams of life, and what fruit He may desire to produce in you.

Give thanks for the things He is revealing to you. Set your study aside and think on the things He has taught you. Enjoy some stillness in His presence.

WEEK 02

Delight in the Word (Week Two)

*A Study Through Psalms About
God's Word And God's Son*



WEEK 02

DELIGHT IN THE KING OF CREATION

BEFORE EACH STEP

PRAY

Psalm 119:18

REVIEW

Psalm 1:1

READ

Psalm 8

MEMORIZE

Psalm 1:2

STEP 01

OBSERVE

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 8

- 01 |** After your first read through the passage, what are some initial observations that stick out to you? (If you need help making observations, here are some things to look for: What is prompting the Psalmist to write what he is writing? What is he writing about? What is the Psalmist's view of God? Are there any repeating words or themes? Does this passage have any clear connections to other passages in the Bible?)

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 8:1

- 02 |** What does this verse proclaim about God?

03 | More specifically, what does this verse say about God's name?

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 8:2-8

04 | What does this section say about God?

05 | What does it say about creation?

06 | What does it say about man?

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 8 AGAIN

07 | According to the Psalmist, why is Yahweh's name majestic in all the earth?

08 | Bonus: The Psalmist appears to be meditating on the creation account in Genesis. Go through the psalm and write down each of the connections you see between Psalm 8 and Genesis 1-3.

PRACTICING DELIGHT

In the Psalter's poetic description of man, he is ever aware of our weakness. He describes our lowliness as little babes, and what are babies and infants capable of in their own strength? Nothing. So it is from their mouths that they find strength. Or another way of reading this is how Jesus referred to it, as "praise being prepared from the mouth of babes". It is the praise and allegiance to the name of the Lord that the weak become strong.

In 1 Corinthians, Paul rejoices in what is weak because it is the weak that the Lord uses to put to shame the enemy. This is the power of the name of our King Jesus. Our lowliness is our strength because He is our strength. Take some time to reflect on the power displayed in your life because you are weak, but in your weakness, His power is displayed.

O LORD,
OUR LORD,
HOW MAJESTIC



IS YOUR
NAME IN ALL
THE EARTH

STEP 02

INTERPRET

ZOOM OUT / 01

COMMENTARY

It could be easy to read Psalm 8 as making generic comments that apply to all humanity. And all humanity is indeed created in the image of God. Therefore, all of humanity is the crown jewel of God's creation. We are below God and yet above the rest of creation, as Psalm 8 implies. However, the apostle Paul and the author of Hebrews reveal that Psalm 8 is especially about Jesus, the true Adam and the human being *par excellence* (the best of its kind). And because all of Scripture has one divine Author, we should not assume that Paul and Hebrews are inventing an interpretation out of thin air or spinning a meaning that David did not intend.

Before we jump to the New Testament and conclude that Psalm 8 is in fact about Jesus we need to first look for clues in what David wrote in Psalm 8 and how it connects to the surrounding Psalms (*Zoom Out 01*). We will consider how David is interacting with Scripture that has already been written (*Zoom Out 02*). Once we see those connections, we will be ready to see why and how the New Testament authors are correctly interpreting Psalm 8 to be ultimately fulfilled in Jesus.

CONSIDER THE CROSS REFERENCES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

- 01 | What are some of the connections between Psalm 8 and some of the surrounding psalms? Why do you think David begins Psalm 8 in a way that would cause his readers to recall Psalm 2?**

02 | In Psalm 2, God promises to give the entire earth to the Messiah as His possession/kingdom so that the Messiah can rule the world on behalf of God. How might this expectation about a coming Messiah influence the way one reads Psalm 8?

CROSS REFERENCES

PSALM 7:17 (THE LAST VERSE OF PSALM 7) / I will give to the Lord the thanks due to his righteousness, and I will sing praise to the name of the Lord, the Most High.

PSALM 8:1 / O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.

PSALM 8:9 / O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

PSALM 9:2 / I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.

PSALM 8:1 / O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.

PSALM 2:4 / He who sits in the heavens laughs.

PSALM 2:6 / “As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.”

PSALM 2:8 / Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.

Also consider the thematic connections between Psalm 2 and Psalm 8. Both talk about God's enemies (Psalm 2:2 / Psalm 8:2), both talk about kings who rule on behalf of God (Psalm 2:6 / Psalm 8:6), and both promise that God will put all things in submission to the king who rules on behalf of Him (Psalm 2:9-12 / Psalm 8:6).

COMMENTARY

In *Zoom Out 01*, we considered a few clues that hint at the fact that David wants his readers to consider Psalm 8 in the context of the surrounding psalms, specifically Psalm 2. This is not surprising. As we will see throughout this study, Psalms 1-2 are constantly echoed throughout the rest of the book.

In this *Zoom Out*, we are going to consider the connections between Psalm 8 and the Genesis creation account. But before we do, we need to not miss the fact that Psalm 8's connections with Psalm 2 and its connections with the creation account are related. Our study of Psalms 1-2 revealed from Psalm 2 that the promised King who will come from David's line will be the promised offspring of Abraham and the promised seed of the woman from Genesis 3:15. The line of promise that the Bible traces from Adam and Eve to Abraham to Judah to David is the family tree of the Messiah. This is why David is constantly meditating on Scripture and writing about his son, the king that will come from his line, because God has promised that this Davidic king will be what the world has been waiting for ever since Genesis 3, the Savior of the world! The whole Bible is pointing to the coming of David's son! This is worth writing and thinking and singing about.

It is with this biblical background in mind that David writes Psalm 8. Psalm 8 is a psalm that ascribes glory to God for the place He has given man in creation. And as we know from Genesis 1, God created man in His image, commanded him to be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth, and exercise dominion over it on God's behalf. But as we know from the rest of the Bible, man has completely failed at doing what God has created him to do. Instead of filling the earth with God's image, man has filled the earth with corruption and sin. Instead of ruling on behalf of God, man has attempted to rule instead of God, which has resulted in humanity being ruled by creation and the arch enemy of the Creator.

As we read Psalm 8, we should (1) marvel at the role God has given man in His creation, (2) lament that man has not lived up to what God has created us to be, and (3) long for the type of man who will image God and rule the world in a way that reflects His justice and righteousness. Thinking about the psalm through these three layers will prepare us for how the New Testament authors apply the psalm to Jesus.

CONSIDER THE CROSS REFERENCES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

- 03 | David is clearly meditating on the creation account in Genesis as he writes Psalm 8. Which aspects of the creation account does David choose to highlight? How do these connections give readers some clues about how to properly interpret Psalm 8 (for example, consider Psalm 8:2, which seems completely out of place without the background of Genesis 1-3)?**
- 04 | Specifically, focus on what Psalm 8 says about man. What is man's relationship to God? What is His relationship to creation? How does thinking about man's role in God's creation prompt David to respond to God?**
- 05 | Consider the role and privileged position God has given man in His creation. Has any human ever lived up to it? In what ways has humanity lived up to our God given role, and in what ways have we not?**

CROSS REFERENCES

PSALM 8:1 / O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.

GENESIS 1:1 / In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

In Genesis 1, heaven is used 10x and earth 20x

GENESIS 2:4 / These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens.

PSALM 8:3 / When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place.

GENESIS 1:16-18 / And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

PSALM 8:4-8 / What is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him? ⁵Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. ⁶You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet, ⁷all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, ⁸the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

GENESIS 1:26-30 / Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens

and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” ²⁷So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. ²⁸And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” ²⁹And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so.”

PSALM 8:2 / Out of the mouth of babies and infants, you have established strength because of your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger.

PSALM 8:6 / You have put all things under his feet.

GENESIS 3:15 / I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

At first glance, Psalm 8:2 seems to be out of place and difficult to interpret in light of the rest of the psalm. However, the Psalmist is clearly meditating on the creation account. And as we will see, he is also clearly thinking about the Messiah. Therefore, when the Psalmist talks about infants defeating God's enemies in the context of a discussion about the creation account and the Messiah, it is reasonable to see an allusion to Genesis 3:15, the first messianic prophecy that comes right on the heels of the creation account.

COMMENTARY

In *Zoom Out 01 & 02*, we have seen that surrounding psalms and the rest of the Old Testament set the expectation that a Messiah will come from David's line who images God to the world and rules the world on His behalf. This was God's intended design for Adam, which was lost at the Fall. And yet by God's grace, He did not give up on His original plan for humanity. He promised to send a Messiah worthy of the title "Son of God" who would rule His

kingdom as a new and better Adam. Therefore, for God's kingdom to fill the earth in a Genesis 3 fallen world, God's enemies will need to be defeated and brought into subjection to God and His King, and the result will be "God's name being majestic in all the earth."

The New Testament authors help make it clear that Psalm 8 has been ultimately fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

CONSIDER THE CROSS REFERENCES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

06 | According to the apostles, what are some of the many ways that Psalm 8 is fulfilled in Jesus?

CROSS REFERENCES

PSALM 8:6 / You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:22-28 / For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ²⁷For “God has put all things in subjection under his feet.” But when it says, “all things are put in subjection,” it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. ²⁸When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

In 1 Corinthians 15, Paul reveals that Christ is a new and better Adam—the human *par excellence* the world had been waiting for. He has destroyed God’s enemies (cf. Psalm 8:2) and is the King of God’s kingdom (cf. Psalm 8:5–6). All things have been, and will be, “put under His feet.” All of this is for the glory of God (cf. Psalm 15:28 with Psalm 8:1, 9). It is clear that Paul sees Christ as the ultimate fulfillment of Psalm 8.

PSALM 8:6 / You have put all things under his feet.

EPHESIANS 1:20-23 / Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²²And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

HEBREWS 2:5-9 / For it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. ⁶It has been testified somewhere, “What is man, that you are mindful of him, or the son of man, that you care for him?” ⁷You made him for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned him with glory and honor, ⁸putting everything in subjection under his feet.” Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. ⁹But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

- 07 | Read Psalm 8 again. According to David, how does creation display the majesty of God's name? Why is His name worthy of praise, and what does humanity's role (namely, Jesus, the true Adam) have to do with it?

PRACTICING DELIGHT

In Psalm 8, we see the intended picture of mankind, to rule and have dominion over the earth. As we experience it today, it feels as if we have very little dominion over anything. We live in a fallen world, a world marked by the curse of Genesis 3. But we can read Psalm 8 with expectant hope that all will again be restored because the Son of Man—Jesus—the seed of the woman, crushed the enemy and reigns as God designed. All things will one day be in complete subjection under Christ.

Close your time today reflecting on the power and majesty of King Jesus. Journal a prayer of thanksgiving that God would be so mindful of you that He would descend to a little lower than the angels and take on the form of humanity as His rescue mission. “O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.” Worship this King crowned with glory and honor, for He alone is worthy!

STEP 03

REFLECT & APPLY

- 01 | Refresh yourself in the magnitude of the name of God from Exodus 34:6-7. How is Yahweh, the name of the Lord, majestic in all the earth?

- 02 | Read Psalm 8:3-4. Consider the most incredible things you have seen of creation, and then consider the fact that God has chosen humanity to have a personal relationship. Why do you suppose God desires a relationship with you?

- 03 | If the God of the universe has set His attention on you, what is stopping you from setting yours upon Him?

04 | Reflect on Psalm 8:5. Isaiah 42:8 tells us that God will not share His glory with another. Psalm 8 is about Jesus, but because it is about Jesus, it can also be about us. He does not share His glory with us, but He gives us the blessing of sharing in His glory! What hope does this give humanity? Consider Ephesians 1:3 to help you understand. How is the reign of such a King the best outcome for humanity?

05 | What in your life feels out of control? Is it because you have not submitted it to the reign of Jesus, or is it because all things are not as they will be some day? How can you trust that all things will be put in subjection under Jesus? What hope does this give you?

RESPOND IN PRAYER

Read Psalm 8 out loud. As you read, notice what portion stands out to you. Take a few moments to meditate on these passages. Why does it stand out to you? What is it teaching you about God?

Give thanks to God. Thank Him for using the weak for His glory, that He is mindful of you and that through Jesus' life on earth, you are established by His strength. Allow the words of your mouth to proclaim His majesty!

Confess any ways you have not given full allegiance to the King. How have you attempted

to find strength, power, or control on your own? Lay those things at the feet of the only One to whom all things will be in complete subjection.

Ask God to help you have the right perspective of Him and the right perspective of you. In all of His creation, He is mindful of us, weak and helpless babes.

Praise God for His power and glory, and that in His perfect will, He desires to reign over us so that we may share in His glory! Read God's name from Exodus 34, and proclaim praises to Him alone!

WEEK 03

Delight in the Word (Week Three)

*A Study Through Psalms About
God's Word And God's Son*



WEEK 03

DELIGHT IN THE BLAMELESS ONE

BEFORE EACH STEP

PRAY

Psalms 119:18

REVIEW

Psalms 1:1-2

READ

Psalms 15-16

MEMORIZE

Psalms 1:3

STEP 01

OBSERVE

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 15

01 | Consider v1. What type of person is David contemplating?

02 | Consider v2-5. How does David answer his own questions from v1? What does this person do? What does he not do?

03 | Consider v1 again and the last phrase of v5. What is the result of a life that is lived the way v2-5a describes?

PRAY AGAIN—ASK GOD TO HELP YOU SEE AND SAVOR MORE OF WHAT IS THERE.

READ PSALM 15 AGAIN

04 | Think back to our study of Psalms 1-2. What repeated words, phrases, and themes do you see in Psalm 15?

05 | How do these connections help readers consider what type of person David is describing in Psalm 15?

PRYERFULLY READ PSALM 16

06 | Consider David's prayer in v1-2 and write it out in your own words. What is David praying, and why is he praying these things?

07 | Go through the rest of the Psalm (v3-11) and look for the answers to these questions:

a | Why does David believe that God is willing and able to preserve him?

b | Why does David believe that God is worth taking refuge in?

c | Why does David choose God to be his "Lord"?

d | Why does David believe that he has no good apart from God?

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 16 AGAIN

- 08 | Think back to our study of Psalms 1-2. What repeated words, phrases, and themes do you see in Psalm 16?**
- 09 | How do the connections between Psalm 16 and Psalms 1-2 help readers understand what it takes to believe what David believes according to Psalm 16? (E.g., Psalm 2:12 reveals that anyone who does not take refuge in God's Son will perish for eternity! Because David believes this, he prays in Psalm 16:1 "In you and you alone oh Lord do I take refuge.")**

PRACTICING DELIGHT

Meditate on the goodness you see in the presence of God from today's psalms. Choose a phrase or verse and consider the truths of this passage. How have you seen this to be true in your life? Take some time to bless God for making a way for you to enjoy Him.

STEP 02

INTERPRET

ZOOM IN / 01

- 01 |** In Psalm 15:1, David ponders what type of person is able to dwell in God's presence, and in v2-5, he provides the answer. Does v2-5 describe a person like David? Does it describe anyone you know?
- 02 |** David's murder of Uriah and adultery with Bathsheba prove that he did not walk blamelessly (15:2a) and he did not always speak truth in his heart (15:2b), nor did he always fear the Lord (15:4). But 16:8-11 seems to imply that David had confidence that he would dwell in God's presence—forever. Was David delusional? Why did he have this confidence?

COMMENTARY

Psalm 15:1 is asking an incredibly important question. Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? Who, if anyone, is able to dwell in His holy presence? In a way, this is the question the entire Bible seeks to answer. Humanity was created for fellowship with God. But when Adam and Eve sinned, they were kicked out of the Garden of Eden (which was on a mountain, see Ezekiel 28:13-14) because

sin creates a separation between us and our God. Ever since then, the question has been: how can sinful man dwell with holy God? How can we dwell in His presence again? Who will be able to ascend His holy mountain? It is with these questions in mind that David writes.

CONSIDER THE CROSS REFERENCES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

**03 | Who shall sojourn in God's tent? Who shall dwell on His holy hill?
In Psalm 15:2-5, David gives a general answer to his question.
But now read Psalm 2:6 and Psalm 24:3-10 to see his specific answer.**

**04 | Ponder: Do you have a desire to ascend God's hill and dwell in His presence?
Do you have any hope to dwell in the midst of His holiness? Why or why not?**

CROSS REFERENCES

PSALM 15:1 / O Lord, who shall sojourn in your tent? Who shall dwell on your holy hill?

PSALM 24:3 / Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place?

PSALM 2:6 / As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.

PSALM 24:3-10 / Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place? ⁴He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to

what is false and does not swear deceitfully.

⁵He will receive blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

⁶Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Selah ⁷Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King

of glory may come in. ⁸Who is this King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord,

mighty in battle! ⁹Lift up your heads,

O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors,

that the King of glory may come in. ¹⁰Who is

this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory!

ZOOM OUT / 02

CONSIDER THE CROSS REFERENCES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

05 | According to Peter and Paul, how does Jesus fulfill psalm 16:8-11? Why are they both confident that the Psalm is ultimately about Jesus?

06 | Are the apostles inventing their interpretation of what David said? Or do you think David would agree with their interpretation that he was indeed talking about the Messiah and not merely himself?

07 | Could it be possible that David was talking about himself and the Messiah? Or to ask it another way, does the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ make the hope expressed in Psalms 15-16 possible for all those who believe in the Messiah? Explain.

CROSS REFERENCES

ACTS 2:22-36 / “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know—²³this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. ²⁴God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. ²⁵For David says concerning him, ‘I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; ²⁶therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. ²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. ²⁸You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’ ²⁹“Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, ³¹he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. ³²This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all

are witnesses. ³³Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. ³⁴For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, “The Lord said to my Lord, ‘Sit at my right hand, ³⁵until I make your enemies your footstool’” ³⁶Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

ACTS 13:32-37 / And we bring you the good news that what God promised to the fathers, ³³this he has fulfilled to us their children by raising Jesus, as also it is written in the second Psalm, “‘You are my Son, today I have begotten you.’ ³⁴And as for the fact that he raised him from the dead, no more to return to corruption, he has spoken in this way, “‘I will give you the holy and sure blessings of David.’ ³⁵Therefore he says also in another psalm, “‘You will not let your Holy One see corruption. ³⁶For David, after he had served the purpose of God in his own generation, fell asleep and was laid with his fathers and saw corruption, ³⁷but he whom God raised up did not see corruption.”

CONSIDER THE CROSS REFERENCES FOLLOWING THESE QUESTIONS

- 08 | Consider the many connections between Psalms 1-2 and Psalms 15-16. How do these connections help you delight in God's Word and God's Son?
- 09 | How do the connections help you interpret who and what David is talking about in Psalms 15-16? Write down a few examples (E.g., Psalm 2:6 says that God has set the Messianic King on His holy hill. This gives readers an indication in Psalm 15:1 that David has the Messiah in mind as the answer to his question).

CROSS REFERENCES

PSALM 15:1 / O Lord, who shall sojourn in your tent? Who shall dwell on your holy hill?

PSALM 2:6 / As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.

PSALM 15:2 / He who walks blamelessly and does what is right.

PSALM 1:1 / Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked.

PSALM 15:2 / Speaks truth in his heart.

PSALM 1:2 / On his law he meditates day and night.

PSALM 15:4 / Who honors those who fear the Lord.

PSALM 2:10-11 / Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.
¹¹Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

PSALM 16:1 / Preserve me, O God,
for in you I take refuge.

PSALM 2:12 / Blessed are all who take
refuge in him.

PSALM 16:2 / I say to the Lord, “You are
my Lord; I have no good apart from you.”

PSALM 2:2-3 / The kings of the earth
set themselves, and the rulers take counsel
together, against the Lord and against his
Anointed, saying, ³“Let us burst their bonds
apart and cast away their cords from us.”

PSALM 16:3 / As for the saints in the
land, they are the excellent ones, in whom is
all my delight.

PSALM 1:2 / But his delight is in the law
of the Lord.

PSALM 16:6 / The lines have fallen for me
in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful
inheritance.

PSALM 2:8 / Ask of me, and I will make
the nations your heritage, and the ends of the
earth your possession.

PSALM 16:7 / I bless the Lord who gives
me counsel; in the night also my heart
instructs me.

PSALM 1:1 / Blessed is the man who walks
not in the counsel of the wicked.

PSALM 1:2 / His delight is in the law of
the Lord, and on his law he meditates day
and night.

PSALM 2:2 / The kings of the earth set
themselves, and the rulers take counsel
together, against the Lord and against his
Anointed.

PSALM 16:8 / I have set the Lord always
before me; because he is at my right hand, I
shall not be shaken.

PSALM 1:2 / On his law he meditates day
and night.

PSALM 1:4-5 / The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
⁵Therefore the wicked will not stand in the
judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of
the righteous.

PSALM 2:12 / Kiss the Son, lest he be
angry, and you perish in the way, for his
wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who
take refuge in him.

PSALM 16:10 / For you will not abandon
my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see
corruption.

PSALM 1:5 / Therefore the wicked will
not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the
congregation of the righteous.

PRACTICING DELIGHT

Psalms 16:9 says, “Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure.” Consider some ways that you can rejoice with your whole being today. How can you delight knowing that King Jesus sits on the holy hill and through Him we have access to enjoy the presence and fullness of God? Once you have thought of something, do it!

STEP 03

REFLECT & APPLY

- 01 |** The Psalmist expresses a deep desire to be in the presence of God in Psalm 16, but Psalm 15 presents a barrier: “Who is worthy enough?” It is because of Jesus that we can boldly enter the presence of the holy God. Take some time to consider the ways you fall short and the barriers that stand between you and God.
- 02 |** Read through Psalm 15:2-5. Jesus perfectly lived blameless in our place, but we are able by the work of the Spirit in us to strive to follow His example. Are you living in reverent devotion to God? What steps should you be taking in obedience to live blamelessly?

03 | Consider the person who takes refuge in God. What benefits does this person experience in Psalm 16? Are you seeing evidence of this kind of security in your life? Journal your thoughts.

04 | Are you experiencing the fullness of joy in the presence of God? If not, what barriers is the Lord revealing to you? How is He calling you into deeper joy?

RESPOND IN PRAYER

Read Psalms 15-16 out loud. As you read, notice what portion stands out to you. Take a few moments to meditate on this passage. Why does it stand out to you? What is it teaching you about God?

Thank God for His Word. Tell Him the parts of Psalms 15-16 that you find delight in!

Confess where you have not walked blamelessly. Tell Him where you have failed to do right or speak truth, or done evil to a friend or neighbor.

Ask for His help to take refuge and enjoy His presence.

Give thanks for the things He is revealing to you. Set your study aside and think on the things He has taught you. Enjoy some stillness in His presence.

WEEK 17

Delight in the Word (Week Four)

*A Study Through Psalms About
God's Word And God's Son*



WEEK 04

DELIGHT IN GOD'S WORLD AND GOD'S WORD

BEFORE EACH STEP

PRAY

Psalm 119:18

REVIEW

Psalm 1:1-3

READ

Psalm 19

MEMORIZE

Psalm 1:4

STEP 01

OBSERVE

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 19

01 | After you have read through the passage, what are some initial observations that stick out to you? (If you need help making observations, here are some things to look for: What is prompting the Psalmist to write what he is writing? What is he writing about? What is the Psalmist's view of God? Are there any repeating words or themes? Does this passage have any clear connections to other passages in the Bible?)

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 19:1-6

02 | What does this passage say about creation?

03 | What does it say about speech, voices, and words? What is the *message* that creation is communicating? How is it communicating it?

04 | Consider the imagery and well-crafted poetry in this section. How does the beautiful poetry of this section communicate what simple prose could not?

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 19:7-9

05 | According to this section, what is the Word of God?

06 | According to this section, what does the Word of God do?

- 07 | Consider each statement of what the Word of God *is* and *what it does* and write down the connection between each one. In other words, what is the connection between the Word being *sure* and its ability to make wise the simple? What is the relationship between the Word being *right* and its ability to rejoice the heart?

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 19:10-14

- 08 | According to this section, what does David desire?

- 09 | Why does he desire these things?

PRAY AGAIN—ASK GOD TO HELP YOU SEE AND SAVOR MORE OF WHAT IS THERE.

READ PSALM 19 AGAIN

10 | What new observations do you see as you go through the psalm again?

11 | Pick one of your observations, meditate on it, and ask God to help you delight in what you see so that you can say with David that God's Word is to be desired more than gold and sweeter than honey.

PRACTICING DELIGHT

The Psalmist ends with a prayer to have all that he meditates on be acceptable in God's sight. To meditate means to focus your mind on a thought. In the New Testament, it is phrased as "setting your mind on things that are above." What a gracious design that as we set our minds on the Word, we can deeply enjoy the sweetness of His presence, but we also please Him in return. What is your mind set on? As you have chosen your observation to meditate on, think of a way that you might practice meditating on the Word throughout your day.

STEP 02

INTERPRET

ZOOM OUT / 01

- 01 | In Psalm 19:1-6, David is meditating on the creation account from Genesis 1. According to David, what message does creation communicate? In what ways does it communicate this message? And is there anyone out of *earshot* of this message?

- 02 | If the inaudible message of God's glory can be clearly perceived from every square inch of creation, then why do so few people give the glory to God that He deserves? Consider Paul's answer in Romans 1.

- 03 | With these questions in mind, what is creation able to communicate about God? And what is it *not* able to communicate?

CROSS REFERENCES

PSALM 19:1 / The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

GENESIS 1:1 / In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

GENESIS 1:6-8 / And God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” ⁷And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. ⁸And God called the expanse Heaven.

PSALM 19:2 / Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.

GENESIS 1:3-5 / And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

PSALM 19:4-6 / In them he has set a tent for the sun, ⁵which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy. ⁶Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

GENESIS 1:14-19 / And God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let

them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. ¹⁶And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

PSALM 19:1 / The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

ROMANS 1:18-23 / For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. ¹⁹For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. ²⁰For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, [g] in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. ²¹For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²²Claiming to be wise, they became fools, ²³and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

ZOOM IN / 01

- 04 |** Why does David go from talking about the heavens and the sun in v1-6 to talking about the Word of God in v7-9? Is this a complete change of subject, or is there a logical connection in David's mind?
- 05 |** Can the message of the glory of God that is proclaimed through a sunset *revive the soul*? Can it *make wise the simple*? Can it *enlighten the eyes*? Why or why not?

ZOOM IN / 02

- 06 |** Consider what David says the Word does in v7-9, and then look at each statement in v10-14 for specific examples of how the Word has indeed done those things in David's heart and life. In other words, how does v10-14 prove that the Word has revived David's soul, made him wise, rejoiced his heart, etc.?
- 07 |** Consider what the Word has done in David according to v10-14. Can a sunset or the Grand Canyon do those things? Why or why not?

08 | Psalm 19 has three distinct sections (v1-6, v7-9, v10-14), but it is one coherent psalm. How do these three sections fit together? Summarize the main point of Psalm 19 in your own words.

PRACTICING DELIGHT

There is much to be in awe of when we experience the vast creation of God. Nature's beauty should naturally bring us to worship and long to know the Creator. God reveals much of His power and majesty through creation, but He reveals Himself—His nature, character, and heart—to us through His living Word. And it is through the Word that He draws us into a personal relationship so that when we experience all that He has done in and around us, we simply cannot get enough. Are you longing for more of the sweetness of His Word? Take some time to search your heart for your longings and talk with your Heavenly Father about what you long for. Turn your heart towards Him and enjoy the sweetness of His presence.

STEP 03

REFLECT & APPLY

- 01 | Read Psalm 19:1-6. How have you seen or “heard” the voice of creation declaring God’s glory? Which truths of God are revealed to you through creation?**
- 02 | Read Psalm 19:7-11. Consider each of the ways the Psalmist describes the Word and what it does. Reflect on each statement and ask yourself if you believe them alongside David. Choose one or two that feels specific to where you are in your relationship with God’s Word and take some time to reflect and journal on your relationship with God through Scripture.**

03 | Psalm 19:12-14 expresses the humble reality that despite our greatest efforts, we are still falling short of God's holiness. Yet the Psalmist, knowing this, cries out to God to have compassion in his weakness as he seeks God's Word. Consider this both encouraging and convicting. Do you have the heart of this psalm, to ask the Lord to refine you even in your blindspots? Do you have blindspots that need surrendered to God? Where are you aware of your weaknesses?

04 | What areas of your speech or the secret places of your heart are not acceptable in God's sight? What do you need to confess? Consider how creation cannot help but declare God's wonder and majesty. How do the words of your mouth fall short?

RESPOND IN PRAYER

Read Psalm 19 out loud. As you read, notice which portion stands out to you. Take a few moments to meditate on this passage. Why does it stand out to you? What is it teaching you about God?

Thank God for how He reveals Himself in both creation and through His Word. Tell Him how Scripture has revived your soul and made you wise and glad.

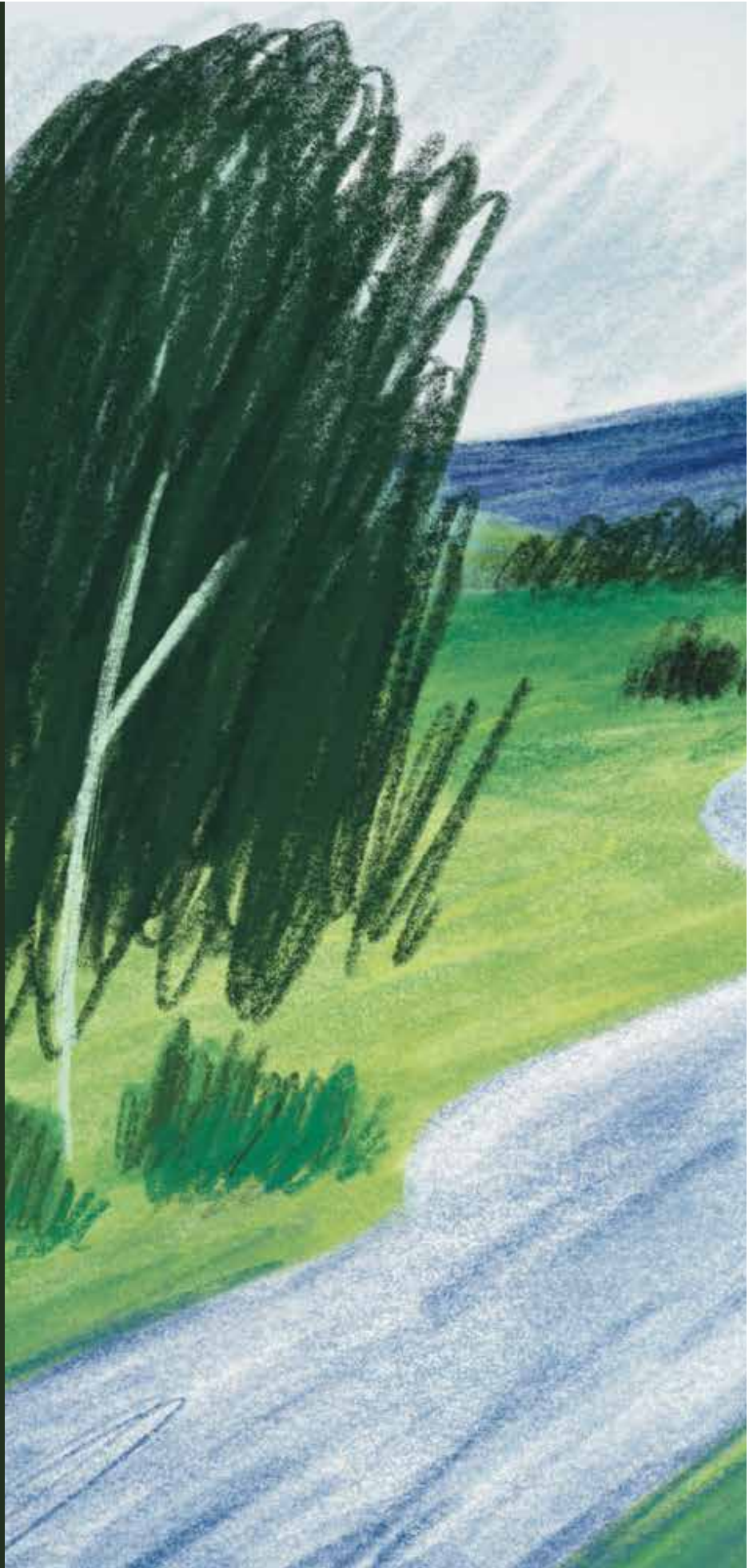
Pray Psalm 19:14, confessing any areas where your words and meditations have not been acceptable in God's sight.

Give thanks for the things He is revealing to you. Set your study aside and savor the Word that is sweeter than honey. Enjoy some stillness in His presence.

WEEK 05

Delight in the Word (Week Five)

*A Study Through Psalms About
God's Word And God's Son*



WEEK 05

DELIGHT IN THE RESURRECTED KING

BEFORE EACH STEP

PRAY

Psalm 119:18

READ

Psalm 22

REVIEW

Psalm 1:1-4

MEMORIZE

Psalm 1:5

STEP 01

OBSERVE

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 22

- 01 |** After you have read through the passage, what are some initial observations that stick out to you? (If you need help making observations, here are some things to look for: What is prompting the Psalmist to write what he is writing? What is he writing about? What is the Psalmist's view of God? Are there any repeating words or themes? Does this passage have any clear connections to other passages in the Bible?)

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 22:1-11

- 02 |** What does this passage reveal about David's circumstances? What is he experiencing? Why is he experiencing these things?

03 | What does this passage say about God?

04 | In v3-5, David says that God has always been faithful to deliver those who trust Him and cry out to Him for rescue. But in v1-2, David says that God has forsaken him. How are these two things compatible? How is David processing the apparent contradiction?

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 22:12-21

05 | What does this passage reveal about David's enemies? How does he describe them?

06 | According to this passage, what have David's enemies done to him?

07 | How does David respond to what has happened to him?

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 22:22-31

08 | This section of Psalm 22 has a drastic shift in its tone. What causes the shift?

09 | According to David, what has God done that makes Him worthy of praise?

10 | According to this section, what will God do *in the future* that makes Him worthy of praise?

- 11 | **Ponder: Why does David focus so much on things that God will do in the future in v26-31? What is the connection in his mind between his deliverance from his current situation and God's future acts?**

PRACTICING DELIGHT

Despite the circumstances the Psalmist finds himself in, he seems intent on being steadfast in his trust in God. Why can he have such faith that God will answer? Consider the character of God and the ways He has revealed Himself to you. Delight in His faithfulness and rest in His promises. Take some time to journal and pray to God about the ways you have seen His goodness. How can you delight in Him today?

STEP 02

INTERPRET

ZOOM IN / 01

COMMENTARY

It has been said that when it comes to interpreting Scripture, “context is king.” The surest way to discern what a passage means is by considering how it fits in the context of the surrounding passage, the rest of the book, and the wider context of the entire Bible as a whole. Interpreting the Psalms is no different. It could be easy to assume that each psalm is randomly placed and that the only context that might matter is the historical setting of the one writing it.

As we have seen and will continue to see, the Psalms are very intentionally crafted into one unified book that helps readers delight in the Word and the Son. So, as we seek to interpret Psalm 22, we will start with the immediate context, then we will zoom out and consider the context of the surrounding Psalms, and then the context of the whole Bible.

- 01 | How do David’s circumstances and outlook shift from the beginning of the psalm to the end of the psalm? Consider the repeated words throughout the psalm and describe all the ways the tone of the psalm shifts.**

**02 | The major shift in tone and circumstance is evident in v22-31.
What causes the shift?**

CROSS REFERENCES

PSALM 22:1 / My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?

PSALM 22:10-11 / On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God. ¹¹Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help.

PSALM 22:19 / But you, O Lord, do not be far off! O you my help, come quickly to my aid!

PSALM 22:4-5 / In you our fathers trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them. ⁵To you they cried and were rescued; in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

PSALM 22:8-9 / "He trusts in the Lord; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him!" ⁹Yet you are he who took me from the womb; you made me trust you at my mother's breasts.

PSALM 22:6 / But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by mankind and despised by the people.

PSALM 22:23-24 / You who fear the Lord, praise him!... ²⁴For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted.

PSALM 22:3 / Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

PSALM 22:22-23 / I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you: ²³You who fear the Lord, praise him!

PSALM 22:25-26 / From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear him. ²⁶The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the Lord!

PSALM 22:1-2 / My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning? ²O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest.

PSALM 22:21 / Save me from the mouth of the lion! You have rescued/answered (same word in Hebrew, see ESV footnote) me from the horns of the wild oxen!

- 03 |** If time permits, read Psalms 20-21 with Psalm 22:1-2 in mind, or see cross references. In light of the context of Psalms 20-21, why is Psalm 22:1-2 so shocking? Note all the apparent contradictions between what David says about God in 20-21 and what he feels about God in 22:1-2.
- 04 |** Psalm 22 confronts the readers with at least three questions: (1) Why does God appear so distant and far from the speaker in the midst of his trial? (2) If God's salvation is the promise of eternal life, then why does He allow the speaker to die (v15, 23 make it clear that he dies)? (3) How does the speaker go from being forsaken by God and killed by beastly evildoers to suddenly praising God? With these questions in mind, read Psalm 23. How does Psalm 23 answer the questions unanswered by Psalm 22?

CROSS REFERENCES

PSALM 20:1 / May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect you!

PSALM 20:6-9 / Now I know that the Lord saves his anointed; he will answer him from his holy heaven with the saving might of his right hand. ⁷Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God. ⁸They collapse and fall, but we rise and stand upright. ⁹O Lord, save the king! May he answer us when we call.

PSALM 21:1 / O Lord, in your strength the king rejoices, and in your salvation how greatly he exults!

PSALM 21:5 / His glory is great through your salvation.

PSALM 21:6 / You make him glad with the joy of your presence.

PSALM 22:1-2 / My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning? ²O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest.

PSALM 22:1 / My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?

PSALM 22:11 / On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God. Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help.

PSALM 22:19 / But you, O Lord, do not be far off! O you my help, come quickly to my aid!

PSALM 23:4 / Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me.

PSALM 22:15 / My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death.

PSALM 22:29 / All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep himself alive.

PSALM 23:3 / He restores my soul.

PSALM 23:6 / I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

PSALM 21:4 / He asked life of you; you gave it to him, length of days forever and ever.

PSALM 21:6 / For you make him most blessed forever.

PSALM 22:13 / They open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion.

PSALM 22:16 / For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me.

PSALM 22:20-21 / Deliver my soul from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dog! ²¹Save me from the mouth of the lion!

PSALM 23:1 / The Lord is my shepherd.

PSALM 23:4 / Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

- 05 | According to the New Testament authors, how is the death and resurrection of Jesus the ultimate fulfilment of what is prophesied in Psalm 22?
- 06 | How does the context of the whole Bible help readers understand how the speaker in Psalm 22 can go from being forsaken by God and killed by his enemies to praising God forever and ever? Or to ask the question another way, is it correct to assume that the shift in tone that happens in Psalm 22 is because of resurrection?

CROSS REFERENCES

PSALM 22:1 / My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

MATTHEW 27:45-46 / Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. ⁴⁶And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

PSALM 22:7 / All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads.

MATTHEW 27:39 / And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads.

PSALM 22:8 / “He trusts in the Lord; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him!”

MATTHEW 27:42-43 / “He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. ⁴³He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, ‘I am the Son of God.’”

PSALM 22:18 / They divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.

MATTHEW 27:35 / And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots.

PSALM 22:22 / I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.

HEBREWS 2:9-15 / But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. ¹⁰For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make

the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. ¹¹For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, ¹²saying, “I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise.” ¹³And again, “I will put my trust in him.” And again, “Behold, I and the children God has given me.” ¹⁴Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

PRACTICING DELIGHT

As we consider Christ’s death through Psalm 22, let us not rush past the suffering He submitted Himself to for our sake. Throughout His suffering, Jesus never doubted or denied the goodness and faithfulness of God the Father. He entrusted Himself to the will of God to crush Him severely. Oh, how loved we are that He would endure such pain and separation on our behalf! Jesus is not ashamed to call you brothers and to proclaim to you the goodness that is now freely shared with us! Join Christ in singing praise to God! Sit quietly and meditate on this truth before you move on in your day. “He made him to be sin who knew no sin so that we might become the righteousness of God” (2 Corinthians 5:21).

STEP 03

REFLECT & APPLY

01 | We learn from David that God welcomes our laments. Verse 24 says that “he has not despised or abhorred the affliction or the afflicted, and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him.” Perhaps you are finding yourself questioning if God hears you in your cries for help. What circumstances or current experiences do you feel you could echo the Psalmist’s cry from verses 1-2?

02 | Are you able to trust God even if His answer seems far? How does Psalm 22 teach you to trust as you wait?

03 | Consider the characteristics of God that the Psalmist points out in his anguish. Do you doubt where his hope lies? How does this picture of Christ's trust in the Father through His death on the cross give you unshakable hope in hard circumstances?

04 | From Psalm 22:22, the song turns from anguish and cries for help to rejoicing and sharing the good news with others. Do you celebrate the ways God has rescued you in ways that point others to Him? How could you be missional and evangelistic with the good news of your redemption?

RESPOND IN PRAYER

Read Psalm 22 out loud. As you read, notice which portion stands out to you. Take a few moments to meditate on this passage. Why does it stand out to you? What is it teaching you about God?

Thank God that He welcomes and hears your cries. In what ways do you feel forsaken? Tell Him how you are feeling. Consider being as descriptive as the Psalmist.

Turn your eyes toward the truth and goodness of God! Has He truly abandoned you? Remember

the ways He has delivered you in the past and recount how you have experienced His deliverance. Praise Him for His wisdom, steadfastness, and faithfulness.

Give thanks that God did not relinquish the plan to crush Christ for your sake. Jesus endured suffering so that we could be called brothers and sisters! Set your study aside and give praise to the One who suffered the most so that you could be called a child of God. Enjoy some stillness in His presence.

WEEK 06

Delight in the Word (Week Six)

*A Study Through Psalms About
God's Word And God's Son*



WEEK 06

DELIGHT IN THE KING OF GLORY

BEFORE EACH STEP

PRAY

Psalms 119:18

REVIEW

Psalms 1:1-5

READ

Psalms 23-24

MEMORIZE

Psalms 1:6

STEP 01

OBSERVE

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALMS 23-24

- 01 |** After you have read through the passage, what are some initial observations that stick out to you? (If you need help making observations, here are some things to look for: What is prompting the Psalmist to write what he is writing? What is he writing about? What is the Psalmist's view of God? Are there any repeating words or themes? Does this passage have any clear connections to other passages in the Bible?)

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 23:1-6

- 02 |** What does the Psalmist say *about* the Lord?

- 03 |** What does the Psalmist say *to* the Lord (note the shift from *he* to *you*)?

04 | What does the Psalmist say about *himself* (in light of who the Lord is and what He does)?

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 24:1-2

05 | What do these verses say about the Lord?

06 | According to v2, why is v1 true?

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 24:3-6

07 | What question(s) does the Psalmist ask? Why does he ask this question?

08 | How does he answer his own question? What type of man will be able to ascend the hill of the Lord?

09 | Who is v6 talking about? What is the connection between the righteous man described in v4-5 and the people mentioned in v6?

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 24:7-10

10 | What question(s) does the Psalmist ask? How does he answer his own question?

11 | Why is this question and answer worth repeating?

12 | What is the connection between the questions pondered and answered in this section with the rest of the psalm?

PRACTICING DELIGHT

What peace is found in the care and leading of the Good Shepherd? In His flock, we find nourishment, rest, guidance, presence in our darkest hours, relentless pursuit, and a place to call home. If the Lord is your Shepherd, how well are you following Him? After reading through Psalm 23 again, close your eyes and meditate on His kind, tenderloving, persistent care. Surely goodness and mercy chase after you all the days of your life. Enjoy His presence today.

STEP 02

INTERPRET

ZOOM IN / 01

- 01 | In Psalm 22, God is “far” from the speaker, and the speaker is surrounded by his enemies. In Psalm 23, the circumstances of the speaker are drastically different. Go through each line of Psalm 23 and note how the speaker describes his relationship with the Lord.

- 02 | As you consider each aspect of Psalm 23, what is a unifying theme or themes you see throughout?

- 03 | Is the relationship that is described between the Lord and the speaker in Psalm 23 surprising? Why or why not?

COMMENTARY

Psalm 23 is a beautifully crafted poem. As Robert Cole points out in his article on the 23rd Psalm, the central theme of the psalm is placed at the literary center of the poem. The statement “you are with me” has 26 Hebrew words that come before it and 26 Hebrew words that come after it (In the ESV translation there are 55 words before and 53 words after). Adding to the poem’s craftsmanship, the word LORD is the second word and the second-to-last word in the psalm, communicating the idea that the psalmist is literally surrounded by the presence of Yahweh. These two literary features provide a visual representation of what the psalm is meant to convey.

As beautiful as Psalm 23 is, it should leave readers asking, “How can it possibly

be true?!” God is holy, and we are sinners. Ever since the fall, there has been a chasm of separation between God and man. The wages of sin is death. And sin creates a separation between us and our God. So, how can the Psalmist say of the Lord, “You are with me”? Why is he certain that God’s covenant love will pursue him all the days of his life? And why does he think that he has any hope of “dwelling in the house of Yahweh forever”?

It is with these infinitely important questions in mind that we turn to consider Psalm 24.

- 04 | What is the deepest longing of the human heart? According to the Psalmist, what were we created for? How do they define happiness and joy, and fulfillment?**
- 05 | Why does David ask, “Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?” What is so special about the hill? What is so special and challenging about being able to ascend the hill of the Lord?**

06 | Does Psalm 24:4-5 describe anyone you know? Does it describe yourself? If comprehensive righteousness is what is required for anyone, who would dare dwell in God's presence? And if no one is righteous, then why are the psalmists always singing about dwelling in God's presence?

CROSS REFERENCES

PSALM 16:11 / You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

PSALM 23:6 / I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

PSALM 26:8 / O Lord, I love the habitation of your house and the place where your glory dwells.

PSALM 27:4 / One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple.

PSALM 84:1-4, 10 / How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! ²My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God. ³Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. ⁴Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise!... ¹⁰For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

EZEKIEL 28:13-14 / You were in Eden, the garden of God... ¹⁴You were an anointed guardian cherub. I placed you; you were on the holy mountain of God; in the midst of the stones of fire you walked.

GENESIS 3:24 / He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

PSALM 15:1 / O Lord, who shall sojourn in your tent? Who shall dwell on your holy hill?

PSALM 24:3 / Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place?

ISAIAH 59:1-9 / Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save, or his ear dull, that it cannot hear; ²but your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear. ³For your hands are defiled with blood and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies; your tongue mutters wickedness. ⁴No one enters suit justly; no one goes to

law honestly; they rely on empty pleas, they speak lies, they conceive mischief and give birth to iniquity. ⁵They hatch adders' eggs; they weave the spider's web; he who eats their eggs dies, and from one that is crushed a viper is hatched. ⁶Their webs will not serve as clothing; men will not cover themselves with what they make. Their works are works of iniquity, and deeds of violence are in their hands. ⁷Their feet run to evil, and they are swift to shed innocent blood; their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; desolation and destruction are in their highways. ⁸The way of peace they do not know, and there is no

justice in their paths; they have made their roads crooked; no one who treads on them knows peace. ⁹Therefore justice is far from us, and righteousness does not overtake us; we hope for light, and behold, darkness, and for brightness, but we walk in gloom.

PSALM 24:3-5 / Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place? ⁴He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully. ⁵He will receive blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

ZOOM IN / 02

07 | Genesis 3:15 is clear that the Messiah will be a human (an offspring of the woman). Psalm 24:3-5 confirms that the Savior will be a human (He has hands and a heart and a soul). But Psalm 24:7-10 says that the Messiah King who ascends the hill of the Lord and enters into God's holy city is—the LORD? How does this add up? And why would the Lord Himself ascend the hill of the Lord?

08 | Who is Psalm 24:6 about? Who is this generation of people who share in the blessing of the *He* who has clean hands and a pure heart? And what exactly is the blessing that this generation will be able to share with the Messiah?

- 09 | According to Psalm 22, there is a man who is brutally murdered by his enemies, but by the end of the psalm, He is risen from the dead and counted among God's people. According to Psalm 23, there is hope to dwell in God's presence forever. According to Psalm 24, the Messiah, who can enter God's presence, is a perfectly righteous man who is also God Himself. And according to Psalm 24:6, the God-man who can enter God's presence will be able to share this blessing and righteousness with those who seek God. How are these truths that are implied in Psalms 22-24 made explicit in the gospel of Jesus Christ? Write down all the ways you see these psalms pointing to Christ.
- 10 | Bonus: Do you believe David intended for these psalms to point to a future Messiah who would suffer, die, rise again, and accomplish salvation for God's people? Or do you think we as Christians are reading things into the text that David did not intend to communicate?

PRACTICING DELIGHT

Holy God first *descended* so that He could *ascend* on our behalf. May our hearts burst with delight that Jesus lived with clean hands and a pure heart. By His perfect worship and perfect Word, He stands before the Father on our behalf. He chose this so that you could become the generation to seek His face. In Psalm 22, the King calls you brothers and sisters, in Psalm 23 the King shepherds you through abundant life and never leaves you, and in Psalm 24 the King opens the gates of the perfect dwelling place and welcomes you in. Take some time to journal your gratitude to the King of Glory.

THE LORD IS
MY SHEPHERD
I SHALL NOT WANT



HE MAKES ME
LIE DOWN IN
GREEN PASTURES

STEP 03

REFLECT & APPLY

- 01 | **Psalm 23:1-3 shows us how the Good Shepherd meets our physical needs and our spiritual needs. What needs do you have right now? What does Psalm 23 say to you about those needs?**

- 02 | **Psalm 23:4 promises the presence of the Good Shepherd. In what ways do you feel alone? What does Psalm 23 say to you about your darkest valleys?**

- 03 | **Psalm 23:5-6 delights us with a place of belonging with the Good Shepherd. How have you seen your life overflow with blessings by the care of the Good Shepherd? How does Psalm 23 help you know what blessings to be looking for?**

04 | Who is holy enough to enter the presence of God? Consider the description of this holy One (with echoes of Psalm 1 and 15), completely innocent in actions, thoughts, worship, and intentions. If there is only One who can ascend the mountain, how can we receive and enjoy these blessings? What does it look like to seek the face of God?

05 | It is an incredible plan that God Himself would become our suffering, shepherding, sovereign King! Read Psalm 22-24 together and consider your King! Choose a portion from this reading to meditate on. Who is this King of Glory?

RESPOND IN PRAYER

Read Psalms 23-24 out loud. As you read, notice what portion stands out to you. Take a few moments to meditate on these passages. Why does it stand out to you? What is it teaching you about God?

Thank God for the ways He has shepherded you in life, how He has provided, nourished, led, and remained with you. Praise Him for His presence!

Confess any areas of your life where you do not have innocent actions, thoughts, worship,

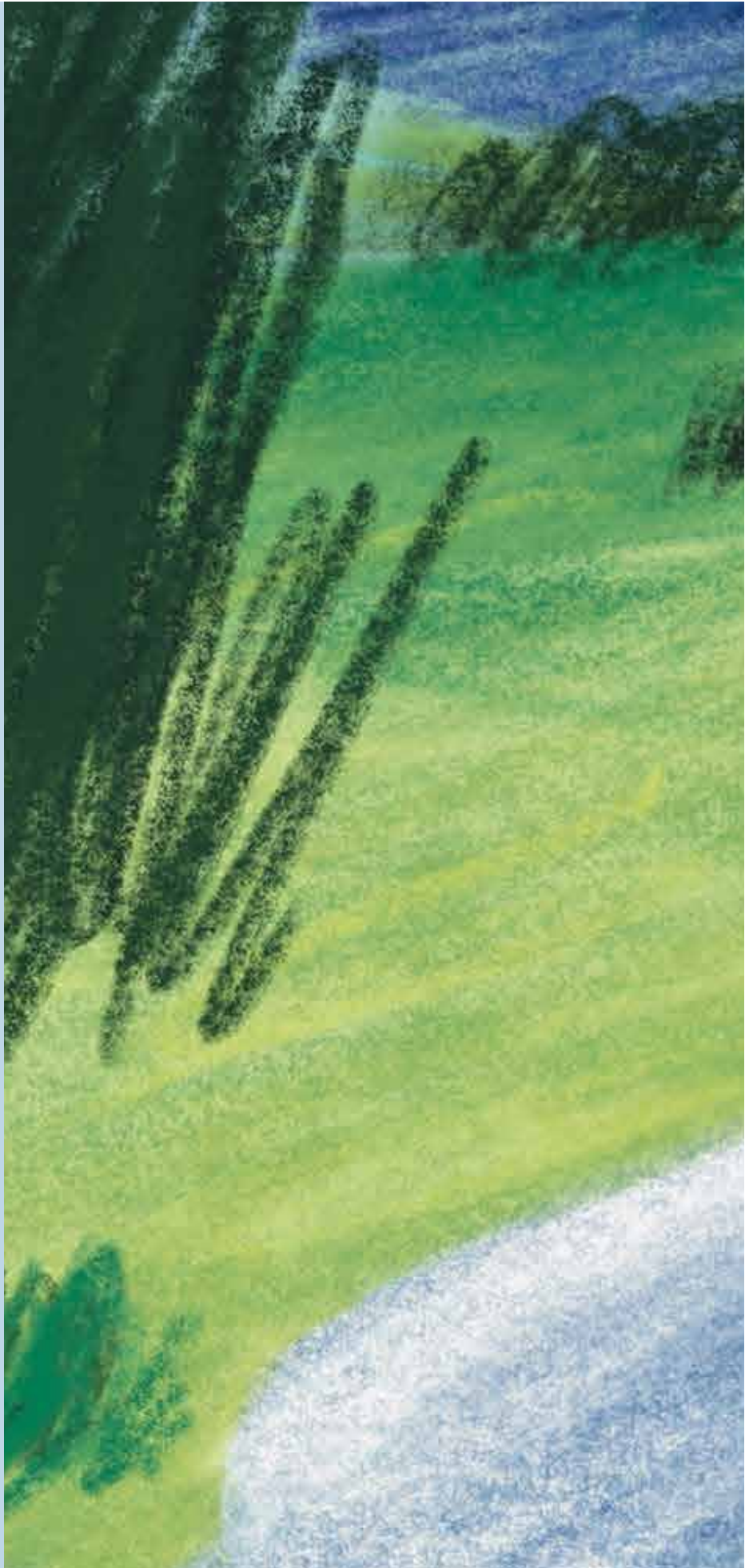
or intentions. Ask Him to reveal areas that you have not sought His face. Ask Him to lead you in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

The earth and all its inhabitants have their life and breath because of God. Let us give praise to the King of Glory, the King whose holiness brings holiness to many! It is only through Him that we are granted entrance into the holy place. Find a position of worship like that of Psalm 24 and give all glory to the King!

WEEK 07

Delight in the Word (Week Seven)

*A Study Through Psalms About
God's Word And God's Son*



WEEK 07

DELIGHT IN THE SON OF DAVID

BEFORE EACH STEP

PRAY

Psalm 119:18

READ

Psalm 72

**RECITE &
MEDITATE**

Psalm 1:1-6

STEP 01

OBSERVE

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 72

- 01 | After you have read through the passage, what are some initial observations that stick out to you? (If you need help making observations, here are some things to look for: What is prompting the Psalmist to write what he is writing? What is he writing about? What is the Psalmist's view of God? Are there any repeating words or themes? Does this passage have any clear connections to other passages in the Bible?)**

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 72:1-7

- 02 | Who is the Psalmist praying about? (Do you think he has someone specific in mind? If so, who and why?)**

- 03 | What is the Psalmist prayerfully asking God to do?**

04 | Why would the Psalmist be inclined to pray to God about the king?

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 72:8-14

05 | As the prayer continues, what is the Psalmist asking God to do through and for this king?

06 | Is this prayer realistic or hyperbolic? For example, why would other kings bow down and serve another king?

07 | According to these verses, what makes this king so great?

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 72:15-20

08 | As the prayer concludes, what is the Psalmist asking God to do *for* this king?

09 | What is the Psalmist asking God to do *through* this king?

10 | Who is this prayer about? Could it be King Solomon? Why or why not?

PRACTICING DELIGHT

Consider such an earthly king ruling today. What would life in this kingdom practically look like for you today? What aspects of this king's rule do you long for? Are there any parts of this psalm that feel personal to you? As we look to the earthly king that David is praying for, we recognize he is hopeful for the promised King of kings. We know Him as our King Jesus! As you read through Psalm 72, how do you see these characteristics of Christ rule in your life? Delight under the care of His perfect reign.

BLESSED BE
HIS GLORIOUS
NAME FOREVER



MAY THE
WHOLE EARTH
BE FILLED WITH
HIS GLORY

STEP 02

INTERPRET

ZOOM OUT / 01

COMMENTARY

Like many other psalms, Psalm 72 is a prayer. But it is not just any prayer. Psalm 72 is a prayer about the promised King who would come from David's line. And as we will see, the prayer is full of textual connections that link the psalm with numerous other Old Testament prophecies

and promises about the Messiah. In other words, this is a Holy Spirit-inspired prayer that is praying Scripture back to God! To properly interpret this Psalm, we must read it in light of the other biblical passages that it is reflecting upon.

- 01 | What are the connections between what God has promised about the coming Messiah and what David prays for his son? That is to say, what are the specific ways in which David expects his son to fulfill what has been promised about the Messiah?**
- 02 | In the passages listed below, God makes promises about the offspring of Adam and Eve, Abraham and Isaac, and Jacob, Judah, and David. According to Psalm 72, should we read these promises as being random and unrelated to each other, or are they all pointing to the same offspring? Explain.**

CROSS REFERENCES

GENESIS 1:28 / And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

PSALM 72:8 / May he have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth!

PSALM 72:19 / Blessed be his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his glory! Amen and Amen!

Ponder: What is the connection between God commanding his image bearers to fill the earth with the promise that the dominion of the Messiah, as well as His glory, will fill the earth?

GENESIS 3:14-15 / The Lord God said to the serpent. “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

PSALM 72:9 / May desert tribes bow down before him, and his enemies lick the dust!

Ponder: What is the connection between the cursed fate of the serpent and those who align with him in rebellion against the Messiah?

GENESIS 12:1-3 / Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ²And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

PSALM 72:17-19 / May his name endure forever, his fame continue as long as the sun! May people be blessed in him, all nations call him blessed! ¹⁸Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things. ¹⁹Blessed be his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his glory! Amen and Amen!

GENESIS 18:18 / Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him.

GENESIS 22:18 / “In your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”

GENESIS 26:4 / I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and will give to your offspring all these lands. And in your offspring all the nations of the earth shall be blessed.

GENESIS 28:14 / Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed.

Ponder: What is the connection between God’s promise to bless all the nations of the earth through Abraham’s offspring, and David’s prayerful expectation that God will bless all the nations of the earth through his offspring?

GENESIS 49:8-10 / “Judah, your brothers shall praise you; your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; your father’s sons shall bow down before you. ⁹Judah is a lion’s cub; from the prey, my son, you have gone up. He stooped down; he crouched as a lion and as a lioness; who dares rouse him? ¹⁰The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.”

PSALM 72:9-11 / May desert tribes bow down before him and his enemies lick the dust! ¹⁰May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render him tribute; may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts! ¹¹May all kings fall down before him, all nations serve him!

Ponder: Could there be a connection between the promise to Abraham that through his offspring all the nations of the earth will be blessed with the promise that all the nations of the earth will praise and serve one of Judah's (the great grandson of Abraham) offspring?

2 SAMUEL 7:9 / And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth.

2 SAMUEL 7:12-13 / “When your (King David) days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I (the Lord) will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.”

PSALM 72:5 / May they fear you while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!

PSALM 72:17 / May his name endure forever, his fame continue as long as the sun!

PSALM 72:19 / Blessed be his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his glory!

ZOOM OUT / 02

COMMENTARY

In *Zoom Out 01*, we learned that all of God's promises converge to be fulfilled in the King who will come from David's line. According to Psalm 72, the Davidic Messiah will be what Adam was supposed to be; He will image God to the world in the way that He exercises a righteous and just rule, and His dominion will cover every square inch of the earth so that the whole earth will be filled with God's glory. We learned that this King will be the promised offspring of the woman who will crush the serpent and all who align with Him. We learned that this King will be the promised offspring from Abraham,

Isaac, Jacob, and Judah, whose redeeming rule will be the source of blessing for all the nations of the earth. And we learned that this King will be the One who sits on David's throne forever and ever. This is the messianic hope that is prayed for in Psalm 72.

In this *Zoom Out*, we consider the many connections between this Psalm and Psalms 1-2 so that we can see that the Messiah that is prayed for in Psalm 72 is who the entire Psalter (and indeed the entire Bible) is pointing to.

03 | Consider the connections between Psalm 72 and Psalms 1-2. What is being reinforced about the character and nature of the coming King and His Kingdom?

04 | Why do you think the Psalmist considers these characteristics so important to emphasize and reiterate?

CROSS REFERENCES

PSALM 72:1 / Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son!

PSALM 2:6-7 / “As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.” ⁷I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, “You are my Son.”

PSALM 2:12 / Kiss the Son.

PSALM 72:2-3 / May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice! ³Let the mountains bear prosperity.

PSALM 1:1, 3 / Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked...

³In all that he does, he prosperes.

If you recall our study of Psalm 1-2, the Blessed Man of Psalm 1 is the Messiah King from Psalm 2. Therefore, there is a connection between the personal righteousness and prosperity of the Blessed Man/King, and it results in justice and prosperity for those He rules over.

PSALM 72:4 / May he...crush the oppressor!

PSALM 72:9 / May...his enemies lick the dust!

PSALM 2:9 / You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”

PSALM 72:5 / May they fear you while the sun endures.

PSALM 72:9-11 / May desert tribes bow down before him... ¹⁰May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render him tribute; may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts! ¹¹May all kings fall down before him, all nations serve him!

PSALM 2:10-12 / Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. ¹¹Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling. ¹²Kiss the Son.

PSALM 72:7 / In his days may the righteous flourish.

PSALM 1:5-6 / Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; ⁶for the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

PSALM 72:8 / May he have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth!

PSALM 2:8 / Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.

PSALM 72:17 / May people be blessed in him.

PSALM 2:12 / Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

PSALM 72:17 / All nations call him blessed!

PSALM 1:1 / Blessed is the man.

ZOOM IN / 01

05 | With the Old Testament background in mind, read through Psalm 72 again and consider:

a | What type of King is this? Describe His character and His attributes.

b | What type of kingdom will He rule over?

**c | What type of people will flourish in this kingdom?
What type of people will not?**

- d | **Based on what you know from the New Testament, how has the prophetic prayer of Psalm 72 been fulfilled in Jesus?**

PRACTICING DELIGHT

The Psalmist's prayer for the king is that he displays the characteristics of God. As God's representative, the king should think like God. This desire is so that the king would rule over the kingdom with a heart like God's. As we delight in the words we read in Psalm 72, we are pointed to a king who rules with not only a heart like God's, but the heart of God. Our King reigns with such righteousness and justice. In turn, those who fear God enjoy the prosperity and peace of His kingdom. This is the wonder of wonders, that such a king would exist! Meditate on Psalm 72:17-19 as you bless the name of the Lord.

STEP 03

REFLECT & APPLY

- 01 | **David's prayer is hopeful for a king who is capable of Psalm 72. Read through Psalm 72 and reflect on ways that King Jesus has answered this prayer in your life personally. This psalm should cause us to respond in resounding worship! This King has come and He is reigning!**

- 02 | **What is the benefit of having a king who rules with the righteousness and justice of God?**

- 03 | **The King of Psalm 72 is one who crushes the oppressor, brings peace to His people, and is compassionate towards the weak and needy. Are there areas in your life where you don't feel the reign of Christ? What does Psalm 72:12 say about those who call for help?**

04 | Verse 14 says that the King pities the weak and needy and redeems His people's lives. He counts their blood precious in His sight. How has King Jesus displayed this redemption and love for us?

05 | This is a King whose name should be known to all the nations! How can you be a citizen who proclaims His good and just reign? Consider some practical ways to share His wondrous deeds in your life.

RESPOND IN PRAYER

Read Psalm 72 out loud. As you read, notice what portion stands out to you. Take a few moments to meditate on these passages. Why does it stand out to you? What is it teaching you about God?

Thank God for providing a King of kings who perfectly rules and reigns with righteousness and justice. Tell Him how your life has benefited from this King.

Confess any areas of your life where you have not feared God. In what ways do you try to be the king of your own kingdom rather than give allegiance to the King who reigns perfectly?

In what ways do you need help? Our King delivers the needy when He calls! Our ultimate redemption from sin and death has been secured, and as we wait for the King to return, we are still invited to call in times of need. **Ask for His help.**

Our King does live forever! A good king brings nourishment to his people and lasting peace. Join in the doxology of this psalm to bless God, who does wondrous things. Give praise to His glorious name!

WEEK 8

Delight in the Word (Week Eight)

*A Study Through Psalms About
God's Word And God's Son*



WEEK 08

DELIGHT IN
DAVID'S LORD,
THE ETERNAL
KING PRIEST

BEFORE EACH STEP

PRAY

Psalm 119:18

READ

Psalm 110

**RECITE &
MEDITATE**

Psalm 1:1-6

STEP 01

OBSERVE

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 110

- 01 |** After you have read through the passage, what are some initial observations that stick out to you? (If you need help making observations, here are some things to look for: What is prompting the Psalmist to write what he is writing? What is he writing about? What is the Psalmist's view of God? Are there any repeating words or themes? Does this passage have any clear connections to other passages in the Bible?)

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 110:1-3

- 02 |** Who is this psalm about? Consider every title (*LORD* vs. *Lord*), pronoun (*my Lord*, *your people*, etc.), and explain who this Psalm is describing.
- 03 |** Who wrote this psalm? How does the identity of the author help readers discern the identity of who is being written about?

**04 | According to this section, what will be the fate of the *Lord's* enemies?
What will be the fate of the people who belong to the Lord?**

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 110:4

05 | Who is this verse about? Describe each person involved.

06 | What in this verse stands out as surprising or unique?

07 | What stands out in this verse as being significant?

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 110:5-7

08 | Who is this section about? Again, consider each title, pronoun, and group to observe all that this passage is describing.

09 | Consider what the Lord does in v7 in light of what He has just accomplished in v5-6. What does v7 appear to be poetically describing?

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 110 ALL THE WAY THROUGH AGAIN

10 | Where is the Lord in v1? Where is He throughout the rest of the psalm? What does this location change imply?

11 | Consider what you know about the Messiah from the rest of Scripture. What event does this psalm appear to be describing?



PRACTICING DELIGHT

Reflect on what it means to have an eternal King that perfectly represents God to His people, but also a perfect and eternal priest who intercedes for you to God, all in the same person. Read through Psalm 110 and as you meditate on the king-priest, use David's imagery to picture His strength, might, and beauty.

STEP 02

INTERPRET

ZOOM OUT / 01

COMMENTARY

The first question that needs to be answered for this psalm to be interpreted correctly is this: Who is “my (David’s) Lord”? David is the King. His only Lord is Yahweh. And yet Yahweh is one, and v1 records Yahweh, the LORD speaking to David’s Lord. So, who is David’s Lord? Rather than just guessing

or assuming that David is referring to the Messiah, we need to prove it from the text. This will enable us to interpret Scripture with Scripture. To do this, we will first attempt to see the numerous connections between Psalm 110 and other messianic prophecies.

01 | What are the similarities and connections between the Son described in Psalms 1-2 and David’s Lord described in Psalm 110? Based on these connections, do you believe Psalms 1, 2, and 110 are all about the same person? Why or why not?

02 | What are the similarities and connections between David’s Lord in Psalm 110 and other prominent messianic prophecies from outside of the Psalms?

03 | Based on these connections, do you believe that David understood “My Lord” to refer to one of his sons, the promised Messiah who would come from his line? If not, then who is David talking about? If yes, why would David refer to his son as “my Lord”?

CROSS REFERENCES

PSALM 110:1 / The Lord says to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.”

PSALM 2:4 / “He who sits in the heavens laughs.”

PSALM 2:6 / “As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.”

In Psalm 2, Yahweh is seated on His throne in the heavens, and He declares the Messiah to be His King. In Psalm 110, Yahweh invites the Messiah to sit next to Him in His heavenly throne room.

PSALM 110:2 / The Lord sends forth from Zion your mighty scepter. Rule in the midst of your enemies!

PSALM 2:6 / “As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.”

PSALM 2:9 / You shall break them with a rod of iron.

PSALM 110:5-6 / The Lord is at your right hand; he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath. ⁶He will execute judgment among the nations, filling them with corpses; he will shatter chiefs over the wide earth.

PSALM 2:9-12 / “You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.” ¹⁰Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. ¹¹Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice

with trembling. ¹²Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled.

There is no verbal connection, but these are the same enemies who are the Messiah’s footstool in Psalm 110:1

PSALM 110:7 / He will drink from the brook by the way.

PSALM 1:3 / He is like a tree planted by streams of water.

PSALM 1:6 / For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

PSALM 2:12 / Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way.

GENESIS 3:15 / “I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

NUMBERS 24:17 / I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel; it shall crush the forehead of Moab.

PSALM 110:1 / The Lord says to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.”

PSALM 110:5, 6 / He will shatter kings on the day of his wrath... ‘he will shatter chiefs.

Genesis 3:15 helps set the expectation that the Messiah will deliver a fatal blow to the head of the enemy with His foot. Then, Numbers 24 reveals that the Messiah will crush/shatter/obliterate the enemy. Therefore, the enemies being made the Messiah's footstool and being shattered by His wrath are poetic allusions to Genesis 3:15.

GENESIS 49:10 / The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him;

and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.

NUMBERS 24:17, 19 / I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel; it shall crush the forehead of Moab... ¹⁹And one from Jacob shall exercise dominion and destroy the survivors of cities!”

PSALM 110:2 / The Lord sends forth from Zion your mighty scepter. Rule in the midst of your enemies!

ZOOM OUT / 02

COMMENTARY

In *Zoom Out 01*, we confirmed from Scripture that when David refers to “my Lord,” he is referring to his son, the Davidic Messiah. In this *Zoom Out*, we will seek to discern why David uses the title “Lord” (Hebrew = *Adonai*). Is David merely being humble, using an exalted title for his merely human son the way a humble servant might refer to his master as “my Lord”? Or could it be that David uses this title in the divine sense of the word in a way that is reserved for God and God alone? The New Testament

authors (including Jesus Himself) have a lot to say about this. In fact, Psalm 110:1 is the most frequently quoted Old Testament verse in the New Testament.

Let’s now turn to the Holy Spirit-inspired New Testament authors to help us interpret what David meant when he wrote the Holy Spirit-inspired prophecy of Psalm 110.

04 | The gospels record Jesus stumping the religious leaders by asking them this question: If the Christ is a (human) Son of David, “How is it then that David, in the Spirit, calls him Lord?” (Matthew 22:43). How do the different New Testament authors answer this question?

- 05 | The Athanasian Creed states: “Now this is the true faith: That we believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, God’s Son, is both God and human, equally.” Before this study through the Psalms (recall Psalm 24:7-10 as well), did you consider the deity of Christ to be a complete mystery until the New Testament? Why might it be important to be able to defend the deity of Christ from the Old Testament as well?

CROSS REFERENCES

PSALM 110:1 / The Lord says to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.”

MATTHEW 22:41-46 / Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, ⁴²saying, “What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” ⁴³He said to them, “How is it then that David, in the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying, ⁴⁴“The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet””? ⁴⁵If then David calls him Lord, how is he his son?” ⁴⁶And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Also see Mark 12:35-37 and Luke 20:41-44 for parallel accounts.

MATTHEW 26:63-65 / But Jesus remained silent. And the high priest said to him, “I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.” ⁶⁴Jesus said to him, “You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.” ⁶⁵Then the high priest tore his robes and said, “He has uttered blasphemy.”

ACTS 2:32-36 / This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. ³³Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. ³⁴For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, “The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, ³⁵until I make your enemies your footstool.”” ³⁶Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

HEBREWS 1:3 / He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.

HEBREWS 1:13 / And to which of the angels has he ever said, “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet”?

HEBREWS 8:1 / Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven.

HEBREWS 10:12-14 / But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, ¹³waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. ¹⁴For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

HEBREWS 12:2 / Looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

ZOOM OUT / 03

COMMENTARY

In *Zoom Out 01 & 02*, we have spent our time attempting to interpret the meaning of what Yahweh says in Psalm 110:1. But v1 is not the only time that Yahweh speaks in Psalm 110; there is a second oracle recorded

in v4. And based on the poetic structure of the psalm, v4 is actually the climactic statement of the whole prophecy. The author of Hebrews certainly thinks so, as he has a lot to say about it.

06 | Read Hebrews 7:1-8:6. According to the author of Hebrews, why is it significant that King Jesus is also a priest after the order of Melchizidek? Write down 5-10 reasons that the author of Hebrews gives.

ZOOM IN / 01

COMMENTARY

The New Testament helps confirm that Psalm 110 is indeed a prophecy about the Messiah Jesus. With this interpretation

in mind, reread Psalm 110 again and consider what Psalm 110 is about through the lens of what we know about Jesus.

07 | When did Jesus sit at Yahweh's right hand?

08 | How will Yahweh make Jesus' enemies His footstool?

09 | When will Jesus lead His people in a battle against His enemies?

PRACTICING DELIGHT

Psalm 110 describes a king who descends, God “sends” Him forth from His right hand to rule in the midst of His enemies. Consider the king in your midst, in the midst of your enemies, your adversaries, the things that render you weak and powerless. King Jesus has come to place all His enemies under His feet. As His people, our enemies are His. As His people, His victory is ours! Meditate on the power of our eternal King and delight in Him!

STEP 03

REFLECT & APPLY

01 | We often view Jesus from the perspective of the Good Shepherd or the Suffering Servant. In Psalm 110, we see Jesus as a warrior King, but also our faithful Priest. How has Psalm 110 broadened your view of Jesus? How has it deepened your worship of Him?

02 | On the day of the king's power, the people offer themselves freely to His service. No questions asked! What would it look like in your life to offer yourself freely to King Jesus? What areas might you be holding back in worshiping our victorious king?

**03 | Why is it good news that the Messiah would also be a forever priest for you?
Consider what you've read in Hebrews.**

**04 | The King we read about in Psalm 110 is exact and thorough with His judgment.
Why is it good that He is just?**

RESPOND IN PRAYER

Read Psalm 110 out loud. As you read, notice which portion stands out to you. Take a few moments to meditate on these passages. Why does it stand out to you? What is it teaching you about God?

Thank God for sending a powerful king to rule and reign, and a forever priest to advocate for you. Be specific in how you are grateful.

Confess where you have not offered yourself freely to Him. Ask God to show you areas where you are holding back.

Ask God to seek your heart and your fears and reveal to you in what ways He is calling you deeper. As your advocate, He lives to intercede for you (Hebrews 7:25). Where do you need Him to do this?

Praise God for a King compassionate enough to intercede for us and powerful enough to make every enemy His footstool! Take a few minutes to write out your own praise response to the King who sits at the right hand of God!

WEEK 9

Delight in the Word (Week Nine)

*A Study Through Psalms About
God's Word And God's Son*



WEEK 09

DELIGHT IN YAHWEH'S CORNERSTONE

BEFORE EACH STEP

PRAY

Psalm 119:18

READ

Psalm 118

RECITE &
MEDITATE

Psalm 1:1-6

STEP 01

OBSERVE

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 118

01 | After you have read through the passage, what are some initial observations that stick out to you? (If you need help making observations, here are some things to look for: What is prompting the psalmist to write what he is writing? What is he writing about? What is the psalmist's view of God? Are there any repeating words or themes? Does this passage have any clear connections to other passages in the Bible?)

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 118:1-4

02 | What does this section say about the Lord?

**03 | What is the proper response to who the Lord is and what He has done?
Who is commanded to respond this way?**

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 118:5-12

04 | What does this section say about the psalmist? Describe his situation and how he responded.

05 | What does this section say about the Lord?

06 | What is the connection between v1-4 and v5-12? Why does the psalmist go from singing about Yahweh's steadfast love to recounting a time of distress and danger?

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 118:13-18

07 | What does this section add to what we know about the situation of the psalmist and how he responded?

08 | What does this section say about the Lord?

09 | Trace the flow of thought from v1-18. Why is the psalmist singing about the steadfast love of the Lord? Summarize in your own words.

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 118:19-29

10 | What does this section say about the psalmist? How has his situation changed? How is he responding?

11 | Specifically focus on the location of the psalmist. Where has he come from, and where is he now?

12 | What does this section say about the Lord?

PRACTICING DELIGHT

Consider the meaning of the phrase “steadfast love.” Another interpretation would use the phrase “loving kindness.” The original word is *hesed*, and in its essence, it means that God has unwavering, compassionate, merciful, covenantal love for His people. What does it mean that the Lord shows steadfast love, or loving kindness, forever? The psalmist wants us to proclaim this phrase continually! Meditate on the Lord’s unending, steadfast love toward you. Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever!

STEP 02

INTERPRET

ZOOM IN / 01

COMMENTARY

Psalm 118 is challenging to interpret. But digging through the difficulties to uncover the glory that it reveals is worth the effort. The New Testament authors certainly thought so, as Psalm 118 is quoted by Matthew (21:42), Mark (12:10-11), Luke (20:17 / Acts 4:11), Paul (Ephesians 2:20), Peter (1 Peter 2:6-8), and the author of Hebrews (13:6). Clearly, in the eyes of the apostles what the Lord has done in fulfillment of this psalm is indeed marvelous (118:23). However, to marvel with the apostles we need to do some diligent Bible study first.

Many of the psalms will name an author, the purpose of the psalm, or a little background or context. This is called a superscription, and it is typically at the beginning of the psalm. One of the reasons Psalm 118 is difficult to interpret is that readers do not know the author or the historical setting, there is no superscription at the beginning. The lack of historical background is itself a very important clue for proper interpretation. The biblical authors are telling readers that the clues to interpreting the Psalms are not in the historical context, but rather in the context of the storyline

of Scripture. Instead of filling in the gaps with historical speculations, readers can be confident that all that is needed for proper interpretation is in the text of Scripture. Therefore, to properly interpret Psalm 118, we must seek to interpret Scripture with Scripture.

The first step in seeing how Psalm 118 fits in the context of the rest of Scripture is to zoom in and trace the trajectory of the psalmist's situation through Psalm 118 (*Zoom In 01*). Next we will consider how the way the psalmist describes his distress and deliverance is meant to link the psalm to the storyline of Scripture (*Zoom Out 01 & 02*). Then we will be ready to see how this psalm is fulfilled in Christ (*Zoom Out 03*).

01 | How does the psalmist describe his distress?

02 | How does the psalmist describe his deliverance? Specifically focus on *location* words that will help trace the trajectory of the deliverance.

CROSS REFERENCES

PSALM 118:5 / Out of my distress I called on the Lord; the Lord answered me and set me free.

PSALM 118:7 / The Lord is on my side as my helper; I shall look in triumph on those who hate me.

PSALM 118:10 / All nations surrounded me; in the name of the Lord I cut them off!

PSALM 118:17-18 / I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord.
¹⁸The Lord has disciplined me severely, but he has not given me over to death.

PSALM 118:5 / Out of my distress I called on the Lord; the Lord answered me and set me free.

PSALM 118:14-15 / The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. ¹⁵Glad songs of salvation are in the tents of the righteous.

PSALM 118:19-20 / Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. ²⁰This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.

PSALM 118:27 / The Lord is God, and he has made his light to shine upon us. Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar!

COMMENTARY

In *Zoom In 01*, we saw how the psalmist cries out to the Lord in distress and bondage as he is surrounded by nations and people who hate him. But then the Lord delivers him and sets him free! And after surviving a near-death experience, the psalmist traverses from bondage (v5), to praising God among the righteous in tents (v15), to then arriving in the presence of the Lord (v19-20, 26-27).

In this *Zoom Out*, we follow the trajectory of the psalmist in Psalm 118 as it is very closely linked with the patterns of how God

has saved His people in the past. We will consider the multiple verbal connections and even direct quotes in order to confirm that the psalmist is intentionally linking the salvation described in Psalm 118 with the broader storyline of Scripture.

And we will do all of this to prepare us to see how the New Testament authors view the patterns of God's saving work in Psalm 118 as ultimately fulfilled in Christ.

03 | What connections do you see between the Exodus narrative (especially Exodus 15) and Psalm 118? Describe the connections in your own words.

04 | Why would the psalmist go out of his way to make all of these connections with the exodus? How do these connections help give readers some clues regarding what Psalm 118 is about? (Specifically, consider the cross references from Isaiah 11-12 as you think about this question.)

CROSS REFERENCES

EXODUS 15:1-2 / Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the Lord, saying, “I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea. 2The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.”

PSALM 118:14 / The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.

For the psalmist to make this statement at the literary center of the psalm is like a big sign in flashing red “think about the Exodus when you read this psalm!”

EXODUS 15:6 / Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power, your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy.

EXODUS 15:12 / You stretched out your right hand; the earth swallowed them.

EXODUS 15:16 / Terror and dread fall upon them; because of the greatness of your arm, they are still as a stone

PSALM 118:15-16 / “The right hand of the Lord does valiantly, ¹⁶the right hand of the Lord exalts, the right hand of the Lord does valiantly!”

EXODUS 15:13 / “You have led in your steadfast love the people whom you have redeemed; you have guided them by your strength to your holy abode.”

EXODUS 15:17 / You will bring them in and plant them on your own mountain, the place, O Lord, which you have made for your abode, the sanctuary, O Lord, which your hands have established.

PSALM 118:1 / Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

PSALM 118:19-20 / Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. ²⁰This is

the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.

PSALM 118:26 / We bless you from the house of the Lord.

PSALM 118:29 / Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

Both Exodus 15 and Psalm 118 describe God delivering His people from distress and delivering them to dwell with Him. And both acts of salvation prompt the celebration of His steadfast love.

In addition to the verbal connections between Psalm 118 and Exodus 15, there are a lot of thematic connections with the Exodus narrative as well.

EXODUS 2:23 / During those many days the king of Egypt died, and the people of Israel groaned because of their slavery and cried out for help. Their cry for rescue from slavery came up to God.

PSALM 118:5 / Out of my distress I called on the Lord; the Lord answered me and set me free.

In both instances, God's people cry out to Him to set them free. Compare Psalm 118:5-13 with Exodus 14 when God delivers His people from the nation of Egypt as they surrounded them and pinned them up against the Red Sea.

PSALM 118:15 / Glad songs of salvation are in the tents of the righteous.

In between the psalmist being delivered from his distress and delivered to dwell with God in His temple, the people of God are described as praising God for His salvation from their tents. This is just like the Exodus, where God's people dwelled in tents in between their salvation from slavery and their salvation to the Promised Land.

ISAIAH 11:10-11 / In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious. ¹¹In that day the Lord will extend his hand yet a second time to recover the remnant that remains of his people.

CROSS REFERENCES

ISAIAH 11:15-16 / And the Lord will utterly destroy the tongue of the Sea of Egypt, and will wave his hand over the River with his scorching breath, and strike it into seven channels, and he will lead people across in sandals. ¹⁶And there will be a highway from Assyria for the remnant that remains of his people, as there was for Israel when they came up from the land of Egypt.

ISAIAH 12:2 / “Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the Lord God is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.”

PSALM 118:14 / The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.

Isaiah 11-12 makes it very clear that the future salvation that will be accomplished by the promised Messiah will be a new and greater exodus. Isaiah even reveals that the new exodus will prompt God's people to sing the song of Moses from Exodus 15. And this is the same song that is quoted in Psalm 118. Therefore, Isaiah 11-12 and Psalm 118 are talking about the same event.

ZOOM OUT / 02

COMMENTARY

In *Zoom Out 01*, we saw that the psalmist is portraying the deliverance described in Psalm 118 as a new exodus. Both Exodus 15 and Psalm 118 are songs that praise God for delivering His people with His mighty arm from the distress of bondage so that they can dwell with Him in His presence.

In this *Zoom Out*, we will consider some verbal connections and overlapping themes with previous psalms. This will help us begin to discern who the psalm is about. At certain points in the psalm, the psalmist is speaking in the first person (consider the verses that say *I*, *me*, and *my*). But other verses in the psalm talk about a group of people (consider the verses that say *we* and *us*). This is important because the group

of people seems to benefit from the deliverance of the individual.

And of course, there is the mysterious verse that proclaims, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.” Readers ought to ask: Who are the builders? And who is the stone that has become the cornerstone? And why is all of this so marvelous?

Asking these questions will help readers see Psalm 118 in light of the psalms that come before it, so that we will be ready to see how the apostles see all of this being fulfilled in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

05 | Why does the psalm go back and forth between talking about an individual (*I, me, my*) and a group of people (*the righteous, we, us*)? Who is the individual? And who is the group? Summarize in your own words.

06 | How do the events and acts that are applied to the individual impact the group of people? Write down a few examples.

07 | Consider what we have learned about Psalm 118 up to this point. Summarize what it seems to be describing in your own words.

CROSS REFERENCES

PSALM 15:1 / O Lord, who shall sojourn in your tent? Who shall dwelt on your holy hill?

PSALM 24:3 / Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place?

PSALM 24:7 / Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

PSALM 24:9 / Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

Recall our study of Psalm 15 and 24. Both of these psalms ask the question that the entire Bible seeks to answer: Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? Who is righteous enough to be able to dwell in God's presence? And who, if anyone, will be able to bring God's people back into God's presence to dwell with Him in His holy temple? With these questions in mind, consider what Psalm 118 declares!

PSALM 118:19-20 / Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. ²⁰This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.

Consider this connection as well. It would seem that what is hoped for and prayed for and prophesied in Psalm 15 and 24 is the event that is being described in Psalm 118.

PSALM 24:5 / He will receive blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

PSALM 118:21 / I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

If we continue to recall our studies of Psalm 15 and 24, we will remember that the King of Glory who ascends the hill of the Lord is the Messiah of Psalms 1-2. Therefore, if Psalms 1, 2, 15, 24, and 118 are all talking about the same Messiah, readers should look for links between Psalms 1-2 and Psalm 118 to help with interpretation.

PSALM 1:1 / Blessed is the man.

PSALM 118:26 / Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

PSALM 2:2-3, 6 / The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against his

Anointed, saying, ³“Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us.”...

⁶“As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.”

PSALM 118:22-23 / The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

²³This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

Psalm 118:22-23 is a mysterious passage about a really important figure who is rejected by leaders/builders but chosen by God. There aren't many verbal connections, but these themes are very reminiscent of Psalm 2 and hint at the identity of the stone that has become the cornerstone.

The cross references above give some clues to the identity of the individual described in Psalm 118. But what about the congregation of righteous people who are associated with the individual?

PSALM 1:5-6 / Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; ⁶for the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

PSALM 2:12 / Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

PSALM 24:5-6 / He will receive blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of his salvation. ⁶Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Psalms 1, 2, and 24, among others, all refer to an individual blessed man/King who ascends the hill of the Lord, who benefits/blesses a congregation of people who associate with Him.

PSALM 118:15 / Glad songs of salvation are in the tents of the righteous.

PSALM 118:19-20 / Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. ²⁰This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.

Notice how a group of righteous people can enter the gate that the righteous individual opened.

PSALM 118:26-27 / We bless you from the house of the Lord. ²⁷The Lord is God, and he has made his light to shine upon us.

COMMENTARY

In *Zoom Out 01*, we saw that Psalm 118 portrays an exodus-like salvation. The psalmist calls out to God in his distress, and God delivers him and sets him free. Upon escaping from a near-death experience, the song of Moses is sung, and a congregation of righteous people praise the right arm of the Lord from their tents. Then the pilgrimage of the psalmist climaxes as the temple gates burst open and a congregation of righteous people is led into the temple presence of the Lord, where they sing his praises forever and ever.

In *Zoom Out 02*, we saw that the individual in the psalm is the Messiah, the ideal King who, through this new exodus, can ascend the hill of the Lord and bring a congregation of people into God's presence, therefore restoring what was lost at the fall.

In *Zoom Out 03*, we will see the many ways that this psalm is fulfilled in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

- 08 | According to New Testament authors, how is Psalm 118 about Jesus?
(Bonus: In what ways has it already been fulfilled, and in what ways has it yet to be fully fulfilled?)**
- 09 | Specifically focus on Psalm 118:22. What does it mean for Jesus to be the cornerstone? And if Jesus is the cornerstone, what implications does that have for us as believers?**

CROSS REFERENCES

MATTHEW 21:9-12, 15 / And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"¹⁰ And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?"¹¹ And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee."¹² And Jesus entered the temple...¹⁵ But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying out in the temple, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant.

This passage comes in the context of the triumphal entry. Hosanna means "save us!"

PSALM 118:25-26 / Save us, we pray, O Lord! O Lord, we pray, give us success!²⁶ Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

MATTHEW 23:37-39 / "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!"³⁸ See, your house is left to you desolate.³⁹ For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

If we put Matthew's use of Psalm 118 in ch. 21 and 23 together, it seems to suggest that there was partial fulfillment through Jesus' first advent that will be fully fulfilled when He comes again. Thus, there is an "already but not yet" aspect to the fulfillment of this psalm. Jesus has accomplished the new exodus through His death and resurrection, and those who identify with Him can enter the presence of God on His behalf. But this will not be fully realized until He comes again, ushers in the New Jerusalem, and the new heavens and the new earth become the temple of the Lord and the Lamb.

MATTHEW 21:42-46 / Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'?"⁴³ Therefore

I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits.⁴⁴ And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him."⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them.⁴⁶ And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.

ACTS 4:10-12 / Let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well.¹¹ This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone.¹² And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

After the triumphal entry, the King of Glory entered Jerusalem, but the religious leader rejected Him and crucified Him. And yet what the builders rejected, God chose to be the cornerstone. And just as a stone has no hope of being included in a building if it is not in some way connected to the cornerstone, if anyone wants to be a part of God's building project (the church), he or she must be united to the cornerstone by faith. For there is salvation in no one else.

EPHESIANS 2:19-22 / So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone,²¹ in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord.²² In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

1 PETER 2:4-8 / As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵you yourselves

like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in Scripture: “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” ⁷So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” ⁸and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

In these two passages, both Peter and Paul draw out the implications of what it means for Jesus to be the cornerstone. For a cornerstone is always the most important stone, but it is never the only stone. A cornerstone is always united with other stones to make a building. So if Jesus is the cornerstone, readers should ask who the other stones are and what the building is that Jesus is the cornerstone of? Paul and Peter make it clear that the building is the new temple and the other stones are believers.

PRACTICING DELIGHT

Psalm 118 is an incredible psalm that helps us to recall the stories of the Old Testament and the history of God’s faithfulness to His people, as it sends our gaze ahead to His promised faithfulness to deliver once again. As we have seen, Psalm 118 is quoted many times in the New Testament. It is the psalm that Jewish families would read to one another on the night of Passover, year after year, remembering the goodness of God to bring their people out of Egypt and anticipating the coming of the Davidic king. Fresh on their minds the night Jesus was betrayed and His road to the cross accelerated, it is understandable how this psalm would come to life to the disciples after Christ’s crucifixion and resurrection. It is as if Psalm 118 draws from both ends of the Bible and points it all succinctly to one conclusion: the rejected stone is the cornerstone of the storyline, and His name is Jesus. As you read through this psalm, meditate on the cornerstone of your faith, marvel at Him! Rejoice in His goodness and be glad in it!

STEP 03

REFLECT & APPLY

- 01 | Psalm 118:1-4, 29 repeatedly invites us to say, “His steadfast love endures forever.” A praise of faith, both expressing the goodness of what God has already done, but also looking ahead to what He is yet to do. Consider the statement of Jesus as our cornerstone, the promised Righteous King, and how through Him we can have hope! How has He been faithful, and in what ways are you trusting in His faithful love for the things to come?**
- 02 | How have you seen proof that it is better to take refuge in God than it is to trust in man? What specific ways in your life have you seen this to be true? In what ways are you tempted to place your trust in creation over the Creator? How does the certainty of Christ as the Cornerstone give you assurance in His refuge?**

03 | The psalmist recounts his battle throughout Psalm 118:10-16, expressing that, through his enemies assailing him, he is fighting back “in the name of the Lord,” his strength and salvation are secured in the Lord, and by His help. Later in Psalm 118:26, we read, “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.” What does it look like in your life to oppose the enemy and find security in Christ? Consider Romans 8:37-39 as you answer.

04 | Read through Psalm 118:14-29, taking note of the connection between righteousness and gladness. Recalling Psalm 1, why do you think joy and righteousness go hand in hand? How have you seen this true in your own life? What is certain and true about your future because of the Righteous King and cornerstone?

RESPOND IN PRAYER

Read Psalm 118 out loud. As you read, notice which portion stands out to you. Take a few moments to meditate on these passages. Why does it stand out to you? What is it teaching you about God?

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! Tell Him of the ways you are thankful for His steadfast love and faithfulness. Thank Him for His everlasting goodness! Thank Him for Jesus, the cornerstone of our faith, and the foundation of our life in Him.

Confess any areas of your life you are not trusting in Him, but in man or man-made things. Confess your fears and distress.

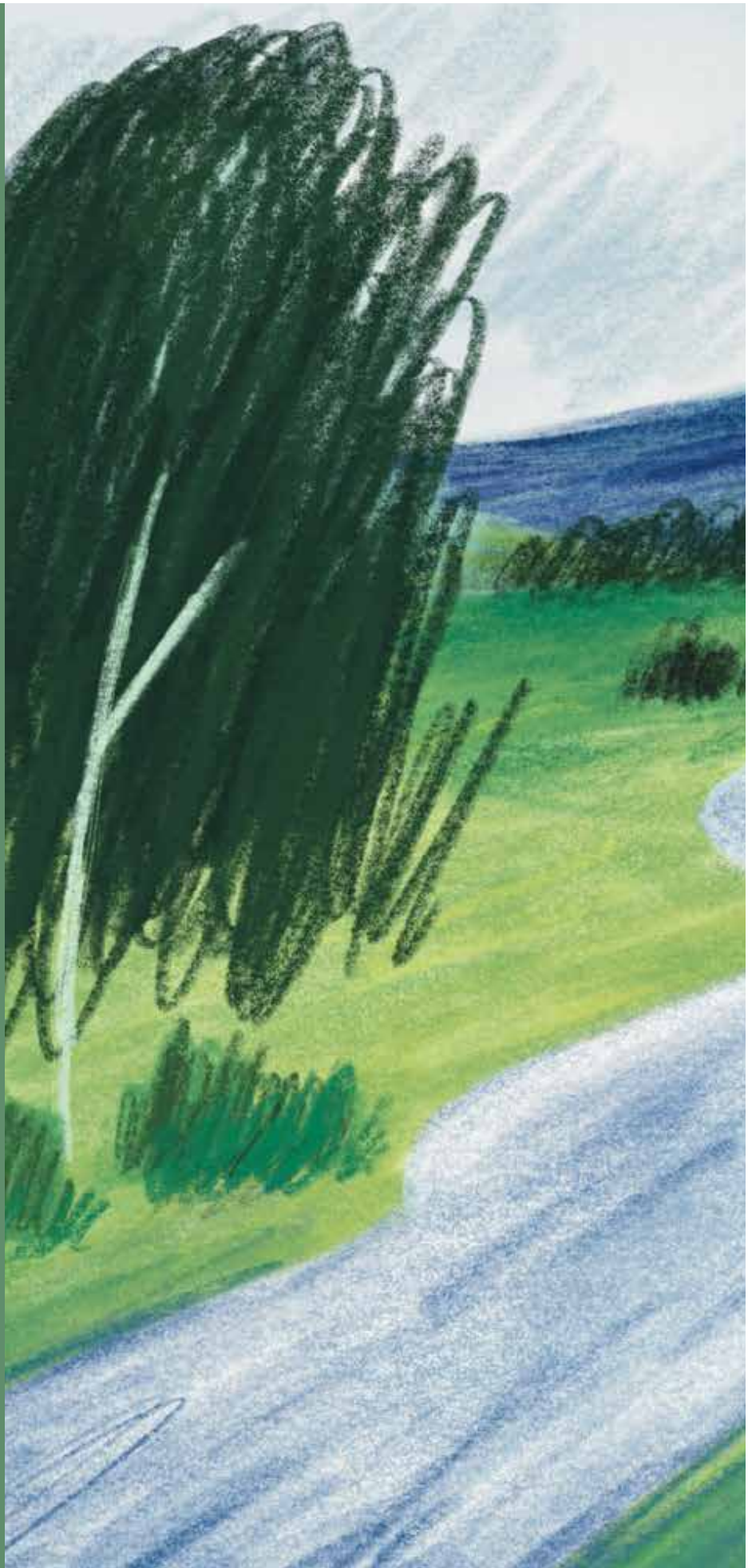
Cry out to God for help! He is our helper, refuge, salvation, strength, song. Ask Him to help as you seek to live in righteousness. Hosanna is a prayer of hope and expectation: “Lord, save us, we pray!” Where do you need to cry out, “Hosanna!”?

Exalt the name of the Lord! Sing praises and bless His name! He has made His light to shine upon us; marvel at His doing!

WEEK 10

Delight in the Word (Week Ten)

*A Study Through Psalms About
God's Word And God's Son*



WEEK 10

DELIGHT IN YAHWEH'S LIFE-GIVING LAW

BEFORE EACH STEP

PRAY

Psalm 119:18

READ

Psalm 119:1-32

**MEDITATE
& RECITE**

Psalm 1:1-6

STEP 01

OBSERVE

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 119:1-32

01 | After you have read through the passage, what are some initial observations that stick out to you? (If you need help making observations, here are some things to look for: What is prompting the psalmist to write what he is writing? What is he writing about? What is the psalmist's view of God? Are there any repeating words or themes? Does this passage have any clear connections to other passages in the Bible?)

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 119:1-8

02 | What does the psalmist say about God's Word? What does the psalmist say to God about His Word?

03 | How does the psalmist take what he has said about God's Word and apply it to his own life? (E.g., in v2 he says that those who keep God's testimonies are blessed, and then in v5 he cries out with the desire that he personally keep God's statutes.)

04 | What does the psalmist say about the relationship between God's Word and Himself/God's people? Focus both on how God's people should respond to God's Word and the effect God's Word has on God's people.

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 119:9-16

05 | According to this section, what does the psalmist believe about God's Word? How do these beliefs influence his emotions and actions?

06 | What does the psalmist prayerfully ask God to do for him? What does the psalmist tell God he will do?

- 07 | What does the psalmist say about the relationship between God's Word and God's people? Focus both on how God's people should respond to God's Word and the effect God's Word has on God's people. (E.g., according to v9, keeping God's Word is the way of purity.)

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 119:17-24

- 08 | What are some of the *threats* or hindrances identified by the psalmist in this section that could potentially keep him from keeping, seeing, and believing God's Word?
- 09 | With these threats in mind, what does the psalmist prayerfully ask God to do for him? What does the psalmist tell God that he will do?
- 10 | According to v17-24, what does the psalmist believe about God's Word? How do these beliefs influence his emotions and actions? (E.g., according to v19, the psalmist believes that God's commandments are essential for life as a sojourner in this world. This causes him to cry out to God and ask Him not to hide His commandments from him.)

PRAYERFULLY READ PSALM 119:25-32

- 11 | Circle every time this section uses the word *way* (or *ways*). What does the psalmist mean by *way(s)*? What is the relationship between *the way* and *the Word*?
- 12 | In this section, what does the psalmist prayerfully ask God to do for him? What does the psalmist tell God he will do?
- 13 | According to v25-32, what does the psalmist *believe* about God's Word? How do these beliefs influence his emotions and actions?

PRACTICING DELIGHT

We have prayed week to week Psalm 119:18, “Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law.” How has the Lord opened your eyes to the beauty and delight of His Word? Reflect on the ways your delight has deepened as we have walked through these Messianic Psalms. How has seeing Jesus in the Psalms grown your love for His Word?

STEP 02

INTERPRET

ZOOM OUT / 01

- 01 | What are the similarities between the psalmist of Psalm 119 and the Blessed Man of Psalm 1?

- 02 | What is the relationship between meditating on God's law and delighting in it?

- 03 | What is the connection between meditating on God's law, delighting in it, and keeping it?

CROSS REFERENCES

PSALM 1:1-2 / Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers ²but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.

PSALM 119:1-3 / Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord! ²Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart, ³who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways!

PSALM 1:2 / But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.

PSALM 119:14-16 / In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches. ¹⁵I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways. ¹⁶I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.

PSALM 119:23-24 / Even though princes sit plotting against me, your servant will meditate on your statutes. ²⁴Your testimonies are my delight; they are my counselors.

PSALM 119:27 / Make me understand the way of your precepts, and I will meditate on your wondrous works.

PSALM 119:35 / Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it.

PSALM 119:47-48 / For I find my delight in your commandments, which I love. ⁴⁸I will lift up my hands toward your commandments, which I love, and I will meditate on your statutes.

PSALM 119:70 / Their heart is unfeeling like fat, but I delight in your law.

PSALM 119:77-78 / Let your mercy come to me, that I may live; for your law is my delight. ⁷⁸Let the insolent be put to shame, because they have wronged me

with falsehood; as for me, I will meditate on your precepts.

PSALM 119:92 / If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction.

PSALM 119:143 / Trouble and anguish have found me out, but your commandments are my delight.

PSALM 119:148 / My eyes are awake before the watches of the night, that I may meditate on your promise.

PSALM 119:174 / I long for your salvation, O Lord, and your law is my delight.

PSALM 1:1-2 / Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers ²but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.

PSALM 2:1-2 / Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? ²The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against his Anointed.

PSALM 119:23-24 / Even though princes sit plotting against me, your servant will meditate on your statutes. ²⁴Your testimonies are my delight; they are my counselors.

PSALM 1:1 / Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers.

PSALM 1:6 / For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

PSALM 2:12 / Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled.

PSALM 119:1-3 / Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord! ²Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart, ³who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways!

PSALM 119:5 / Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!

PSALM 119:9 / How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word.

PSALM 119:14-15 / In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches. ¹⁵I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways.

PSALM 119:26 / When I told of my ways, you answered me; teach me your statutes!

PSALM 119:29-30 / Put false ways far from me and graciously teach me your law! ³⁰I have chosen the way of faithfulness; I set your rules before me.

PSALM 119:32 / I will run in the way of your commandments when you enlarge my heart!

PSALM 119:33 / Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes; and I will keep it to the end.

PSALM 119:37 / Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things; and give me life in your ways.

PSALM 119:59 / When I think on my ways, I turn my feet to your testimonies.

PSALM 119:101 / I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep your word.

PSALM 119:104 / Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.

PSALM 119:128 / Therefore I consider all your precepts to be right; I hate every false way.

PSALM 119:132 / Turn to me and be gracious to me, as is your way with those who love your name.

PSALM 119:168 / I keep your precepts and testimonies, for all my ways are before you.

ZOOM OUT / 02

04 | *Delight* is not the first word most people use when describing how they feel about God's Word. Why and how do these psalmists delight in God's Word?

05 | According to Psalm 111:12, delighting in God's Word leads people to study it/meditate on it. In Psalm 119:23-24, it seems that *meditating* on God's law leads the psalmist to *delight* in it. Why do the two lead to each other?

06 | Continue to meditate on the cross references below. What are some things that hinder delighting in God's Word?

CROSS REFERENCES

PSALM 1:1-2 / Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers ²but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.

PSALM 40:8 / "I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart."

PSALM 111:2 / Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them.

PSALM 112:1 / Praise the Lord! Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in his commandments!

PSALM 119:14-16 / In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches. ¹⁵I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways. ¹⁶I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.

PSALM 119:23-24 / Even though princes sit plotting against me, your servant will meditate on your statutes. ²⁴Your testimonies are my delight; they are my counselors.

PSALM 119:27 / Make me understand the way of your precepts, and I will meditate on your wondrous works.

PSALM 119:35 / Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it.

PSALM 119:47-48 / For I find my delight in your commandments, which I love. ⁴⁸I will lift up my hands toward your commandments, which I love, and I will meditate on your statutes.

PSALM 119:70 / Their heart is unfeeling like fat, but I delight in your law.

PSALM 119:77-78 / Let your mercy come to me, that I may live; for your law is my delight. ⁷⁸Let the insolent be put to shame, because they have wronged me

with falsehood; as for me, I will meditate on your precepts.

PSALM 119:92 / If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction.

PSALM 119:143 / Trouble and anguish have found me out, but your commandments are my delight.

PSALM 119:148 / My eyes are awake before the watches of the night, that I may meditate on your promise.

PSALM 119:174 / I long for your salvation, O Lord, and your law is my delight.

ZOOM IN / 01

07 | Psalm 119 begins by saying, “Blessed are those who keep his testimonies” (119:2a). According to the rest of the psalm, how does someone keep God’s Word? List the different factors you see in the cross references.

08 | Consider the different factors you listed above. Does the psalmist seem to believe that keeping God’s Word is primarily dependent on his effort or God’s grace? Explain.

09 | What are the results/blessings that come from keeping God’s Word?

CROSS REFERENCES

PSALM 119:5 / Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!

PSALM 119:9 / How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word.

PSALM 119:17 / Deal bountifully with your servant, that I may live and keep your word.

PSALM 119:33-34 / Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes; and I will keep it to the end. ³⁴Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart.

PSALM 119:55-56 / I remember your name in the night, O Lord, and keep your law. ⁵⁶This blessing has fallen to me, that I have kept your precepts.

PSALM 119:57 / The Lord is my portion; I promise to keep your words.

PSALM 119:67 / Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep your word.

PSALM 119:88 / In your steadfast love give me life, that I may keep the testimonies of your mouth.

PSALM 119:100 / I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts.

PSALM 119:129 / Your testimonies are wonderful; therefore my soul keeps them.

PSALM 119:134 / Redeem me from man's oppression, that I may keep your precepts.

PSALM 119:145 / With my whole heart I cry; answer me, O Lord! I will keep your statutes.

PSALM 119:167-168 / My soul keeps your testimonies; I love them exceedingly.

¹⁶⁸I keep your precepts and testimonies, for all my ways are before you.

PRACTICING DELIGHT

Psalm 119:11 says, "I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you." To store something up is to consider the thing stored up as a treasure; it needs to be hidden and held on to. In a sense, it is suggested that we hoard it, collect it, and keep it. But its purpose is for our good, our instruction, and our delight. What have you read today (or during this study) that you have treasured? Meditate on the Word and reflect on its works in your life. It is by His grace that He enlarges your heart for His Word.

STEP 03

REFLECT & APPLY

- 01 | What does it look like to seek God with your whole heart? Evaluate how you seek God and His Word. Would you say that it is with your whole heart? What barriers do you see?**
- 02 | What ways have you found helpful in keeping or storing up God's Word? What has been challenging for you in meditating and delighting in Scripture?**

03 | How have you seen delighting in the Word guarding and keeping you from stumbling in sin? Why is it better to walk in His ways?

04 | What practical tools have you learned and used during this study that have deepened your delight in the Word and Jesus? How can you continue to use and grow these practices?

RESPOND IN PRAYER

Read Psalm 119:1-32 out loud. As you read, notice which portion stands out to you. Take a few moments to meditate on these passages. Why does it stand out to you? What is it teaching you about God?

Thank God for His Word! Thank Him that He reveals Himself through it, and thank Him that He has been gracious to give us instructions that bring us flourishing!

Confess when or how you don't desire His Word. Tell Him of the places in your life where you are tempted to choose your own ways and wisdom.

Ask God to continue to illuminate His Word for you. Pray Psalm 119:18 again. Ask Him to be bountiful in His wondrous things. Ask Him to grow your desire and delight in His ways.

Let His testimonies be your delight! As you close in gratitude, thank God for the Word. Reflect on your study and praise Him for the ways He has revealed Himself to you.

APPENDIX A

PSALM 1 SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

WHY MEMORIZE SCRIPTURE?

Before we get to the *how* we need to understand the *why*. Here are a few reasons to consider: (1) We are commanded to (Joshua 1:8). (2) It will keep us from sin (Psalm 119:9). (3) It will equip us to pray (John 15:7). (4) It is a feast for the soul (Matthew 4:4).

HOW TO MEMORIZE SCRIPTURE

The ability to memorize long portions of Scripture is a muscle we develop, not a natural gifting we are born with. Therefore if you have trouble memorizing, the best way to grow is by memorizing! The key is repetition. Ten minutes a day is much more effective than an hour once a week. Consider using this step by step process below.

DAY 1:

- Read Psalm 1:1 out loud five times (read it slowly and thoughtfully).
- Close your Bible and recite verse 1 until you get it word for word.
- Review verse 1 in your head throughout the day (redeem those spare minutes that we usually waste on our phone!).

DAY 2:

- Review verse 1 until you can recite it word for word (reviewing is the key to making it stick).
- Read Psalm 1:2 out loud five times.
- Close your Bible and recite verses 1-2 together until you get it word for word.
- Review verses 1-2 in your head throughout the day.

DAY 3:

- Review verses 1-2 until you can recite it word for word.
- Continue to add verses, review, and repeat.

HIS DELIGHT
IS IN THE LAW
OF THE LORD,
AND ON HIS LAW
HE MEDITATES
DAY AND NIGHT

PSALM 1:2

GOSPEL CITY CHURCH