



PSALM 65

Greet:

- Spend a minute getting a 30-60 second update from each student on what they are doing with their time, how they are feeling, etc. Within reason, be strict with the 30-60 seconds!
- **Discussion Question:** What is the most amazing thing you have seen in nature?
- **Discussion Question:** What is one thing you prayed for this week?
- **Silent Question:** Write down one way you failed/sinned this week and feel guilt/shame around?

Dive-In:

- The above 3 questions probably seem random and disconnected, but this Psalm is going to help us see a major connection between Nature and our Sin and Prayer!
- Read Psalm 65 together, have one volunteer read it out loud for the group.

*What mighty praise, O God, belongs to you in Zion. We will fulfill our vows to you, **2** for you answer our prayers. All of us must come to you. **3** Though we are overwhelmed by our sins, you forgive them all. **4** What joy for those you choose to bring near, those who live in your holy courts. What festivities await us inside your holy Temple. **5** You faithfully answer our prayers with awesome deeds, O God our savior. You are the hope of everyone on earth, even those who sail on distant seas.*

***6** You formed the mountains by your power and armed yourself with mighty strength. **7** You quieted the raging oceans with their pounding waves and silenced the shouting of the nations. **8** Those who live at the ends of the earth stand in awe of your wonders. From where the sun rises to where it sets, you inspire shouts of joy. **9** You take care of the earth and water it, making it rich and fertile. The river of God has plenty of water; it provides a bountiful harvest of grain, for you have ordered it so. **10** You drench the plowed ground with rain, melting the clods and leveling the ridges. You soften the earth with showers and bless its abundant crops. **11** You*



*crowns the year with a bountiful harvest; even the hard pathways overflow with abundance. **12**
The grasslands of the wilderness become a lush pasture, and the hillsides blossom with joy. **13**
The meadows are clothed with flocks of sheep, and the valleys are carpeted with grain. They all
shout and sing for joy!*

Discover & Discuss:

- In verse 3, the author says we are “overwhelmed by our sins” . . . what do you think he means? Have you ever felt that way?
- What does verse 3 say about what God does with our sins?
- There is joy available for those who come near to God . . . what does it look like for you to draw near to God?
- What does verse 5 say God does with our prayers?
- What do verses 6-13 communicate about God?

Summary Thoughts:

The same God who displays his power and faithfulness in nature (vs 6-13) displays his power and faithfulness in forgiving every single one of our sins and answering our prayers (vs 1-5). **Every time you notice something amazing in nature it is a reminder of God’s power to forgive every single sin and answer our prayers!**

Apply:

- What sin do you need to confess to God and receive his forgiveness?
- Is there something you are worried about that you need to pray for?
- How can you move toward God in prayer in a specific way this week?
- What is something creative you can do this week to allow nature to remind you of God’s power to forgive sin and answer prayer?

Pray:

Spend some time praying and asking God to help you apply His word. Also pray for things that are on your heart. Here are some examples of things to pray for:

- Spend a moment in prayer, thanking God for specific sins he has forgiven you for!
- Spend a moment thanking God for answered prayers.
- Pray for God to open your eyes to his power on display in nature.



- Pray for continued strength and endurance for healthcare workers.
- Pray for . . . ?