

CONSUMER OR CONSUMED | WEEK 3

Date: January 21, 2023

Verses: Psalm 84:5-6



SERIES INSIGHT

In our first full series for 2024, *Consumer or Consumed?*, we are tying in the heartbeat of “Hallelujah” and taking a more introspective look at ourselves and our longing and hungering for God. We are ineffective being just “consumers”. But something comes alive in us when we bask in the presence of God as he “consumes” us - he is after all, an all consuming fire (see Hebrews 12:29).

ICEBREAKER

- What are your top three most used emojis?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. **Review the Message.** Looking back at your notes and upon reflecting on this weekend’s message, what was your one takeaway from Sunday?
2. Follow up to last week... How did it go practicing to long for God's presence? (see Ps. 84:3-4)
3. **Strength and Blessing:** In verse 5, the psalmist mentions strength being in God. How do you interpret the concept of strength in this context, and how can it be a source of blessing?
4. **Hearts Set on Pilgrimage:** The psalmist speaks of hearts being set on pilgrimage. What does pilgrimage mean in a spiritual or metaphorical sense? How can setting our hearts on pilgrimage impact our faith journey?
5. **The Valley of Baka:** Verse 6 mentions passing through the Valley of Baka. In your understanding, what could this valley represent metaphorically in our lives? How do we navigate difficult or challenging seasons?
6. **Turning Sorrow into Springs:** The psalmist describes turning the Valley of Baka into a place of springs. How can our faith transform difficult situations or times of sorrow into sources of renewal and hope?
7. **Autumn Rains and Pools:** What significance do you see in the mention of autumn rains covering the valley with pools? How might this imagery relate to God's provision and timing in our lives?
8. How can we, as a small group or community, support each other in times of difficulty and pilgrimage? Share ideas on building a supportive and encouraging community. Choose ONE to commit to doing this semester together.

PRAYER

Allow people to share requests and celebrate any praise reports as well. Consider having someone write down the requests to share with the group. Take time to pray however long your group needs.



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