

## Small Group Study Summer Semester Week Seven

*Remember, these questions are just tools for discussion. You don't need to 'get through them all'. Use the questions that are helpful, skip the questions that are not. And let the conversation flow naturally.*

### Optional Ice Breaker(s)

- a) What is your favourite country that you've visited? What did you love about this country (food, people, culture, etc.)?
- b) If you had to delete all but three apps from your smartphone, which ones would you keep? Why would you keep those apps? Which apps do you wish you could delete?

### Passage and Discussion

#### **Read Psalm 11**

- a) What stands out to you upon first reading of this passage? What is a theme, verse, or word that you find encouraging? What do you find challenging in this passage?
- b) On Sunday, Cam began by reminding us that we can all relate to the question being asked in this question: where do we go when our foundations are being destroyed? How has your life changed in the last few months? What feelings of uncertainty are you working through?
- c) In the first verse, David writes that he "takes refuge in the Lord". Therefore, he will not hide when conflict comes his way. If you're honest, what is your first reaction when your "foundations are being destroyed" - is it to hide, or to take refuge in the Lord? How can we grow in our ability to "hide ourselves" in God during hard seasons?
- d) On Sunday, Cam asked the simple question: what do we do when we don't know what to do? How would you answer this question? How does our passage answer this question?
- e) On Sunday, we learned the chiastic structure of the Psalm - it has repeating statements working out from the middle statement (verse 4). Have you ever heard of chiastic structure before? How does learning about this structure help you understand the importance of verse 4?
- f) On Sunday, Cam taught that the response that we should have to uncertainty is to trust that "God is still God". How do we learn to trust Him in our everyday lives, especially if our "foundations are being destroyed"? Is trusting Him your default in hard seasons?
- g) In verse 4, we are reminded that God is "observing/examining" everyone on the earth. How should this truth change how we live our everyday lives? How does this truth give us hope that living righteously will not go unnoticed?

- h) God is a loving God, but He is also a righteous God who judges the “wicked”. How does this influence or change the way that you approach God? How do we balance his lovingkindness with his judgment?
- i) In the last verse, we are taught that “the righteous will see His face”. What does this verse mean to you? What is the relationship between our relationship with God and the way that we live our lives?
- j) Was there anything else in the message on Sunday that stood out to you as impactful or challenging? Did you learn anything about the Psalms that you didn’t know before?

### **Take it Home (Optional Ideas for Response this Week)**

- a) This week, continue reading through the Psalms! Over the next few weeks, we will be exploring a new Psalm each week, so continue reading them to have them in your mind as we learn them together as a church community.
- b) This week, read this Psalm each morning before you begin your day. Use that time to reflect on God’s character, as well as to remind yourself that you are invited to “take refuge in Him”.

### **Optional Ideas for Prayer Time**

- a) In this season, it is important for us to be intentionally praying for each other. This also means that we must each choose to be honest and vulnerable with our prayer requests. Take time to ‘check-in’ about how each person is doing, and pray for them.
- b) As a group, spend a few minutes praying for the church as it plans to re-open on Sunday mornings next Sunday (August 23). Pray that the re-opening would go well, and that everyone is kept safe and healthy as we continue to connect as a community.