

Life Group Guide: Psalm 27

Opening Prayer

Begin your time together by inviting God's presence and asking Him to help group members be honest about their fears and open to His comfort.

Icebreaker

Question: Share about a time when fear or anxiety narrowed your vision so much that you couldn't see anything else. What helped you regain perspective?

Key Takeaways from the Sermon

1. The Lord is our security - We can live with confidence because God protects us, receives us, and directs us
2. The Lord welcomes us into His presence - God hears our cries and takes us in, even when others fail us
3. The Lord gives us courageous integrity - He teaches us how to live and leads us when we're accused

Main Idea: Just like David, we can live with confidence in every circumstance because the Lord protects us, receives us, and directs us.

Discussion Questions

Section 1: The Lord is Our Security (Psalm 27:1-6)

1. Read Psalm 27:1-3. David faced life-threatening situations, not minor inconveniences. What are the "real fears" in your life right now—things that aren't irrational but actual concerns?

2. David describes God as "my light," "my salvation," and "the stronghold of my life." Which of these descriptions do you need most right now, and why?
3. Read verse 4. David's "one thing" was to dwell in God's presence and gaze upon His beauty. What tends to be your "one thing" when stress hits? How can you make seeking God's presence your primary focus?
4. The sermon mentioned that "fear may come near us, but it does not have to rule us." What's the difference between experiencing fear and being ruled by it?

Section 2: The Lord Welcomes Us (Psalm 27:7-10)

5. Read verses 7-8. David cries out loud to God with brutal honesty. Why do we sometimes hesitate to be this transparent with God? What holds you back?
6. Verse 10 says, "For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the Lord will take me in." Have you experienced human relationships failing you? How does knowing God never rejects you change your perspective?
7. The sermon asked: "Does difficulty push you away from God or toward Him?" Be honest—which direction has difficulty been pushing you lately?

Section 3: The Lord Gives Courageous Integrity (Psalm 27:11-14)

8. Read verse 11. David asks God to "teach me your way" and "lead me on a level path." Why is it significant that he asks for God's way specifically when facing enemies and false accusations?
9. When you face criticism or opposition, what's your natural tendency—retaliation, rushing to fix it, or trying to control the situation? How does David's response challenge you?
10. Read verse 14 together. The word "wait" appears twice. Why is waiting such hard work? What does it look like practically to "wait for the Lord" in your current situation?

Practical Applications

This Week's Challenge:

Choose one of the following to practice this week:

Option 1: The Daily Reminder

- Each morning this week, read Psalm 27:1 aloud: "The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?"
- Journal about one specific fear and how this verse speaks to it

Option 2: The Honest Prayer

- Set aside 15 minutes this week for a "David-style" prayer
- Cry out to God with complete honesty about your fears, anxieties, and circumstances
- Don't clean it up—bring it all before Him

Option 3: The Waiting Exercise

- Identify one situation where you're tempted to rush, fix, or control
- Commit to waiting on the Lord for direction before acting
- Ask someone in your group to check in with you about it

Group Activity

Worship Through Psalm 27:

David responded to God's faithfulness with singing (v. 6). As a group:

1. Read Psalm 27 aloud together, taking turns reading verses
2. Pause after reading to share briefly what stood out to you
3. Close by singing a worship song together or playing one that reflects God's protection and presence
4. Have each person share one thing they're praising God for, even in the midst of difficulty

Reflection Questions for Personal Quiet Time

- Where am I turning first when fear rises—inward, outward, or upward?
 - What would it look like for me to be "preoccupied with one thing"—God's presence?
 - How can I treat others with dignity and respect while I'm waiting for God to act on my behalf?
 - In what ways have I been trying to be my own "light and salvation" instead of depending on God?
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Memory Verse for the Week

Psalms 27:1 - "The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?"

Closing Prayer

Invite group members to share one specific fear or anxiety they're facing. Pray for each person, asking God to:

- Be their light in the darkness
 - Welcome them into His presence
 - Give them courage to wait on Him
 - Help them see His beauty and goodness
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Looking Ahead

Next week, continue to check in with each other about how God is meeting you in your fears and anxieties. Share testimonies of how waiting on the Lord has strengthened your faith.

Reminder: God hears you. He welcomes you. He will lead you. Wait for the Lord!