

Small Group Discussion + Leader Guide

Sunday, June 28, 2026

Preached By: Caleb Alexander

“Fulfillment in Christ”

Summer in the Psalms Series #5

Psalms 84:1-12

Opening Prayer & Introduction (5 minutes)

Begin by asking someone to open in prayer, asking God to guide your discussion and help the group treasure His presence above all else.

Icebreaker Question: What is one place where you feel most at peace, and why?

Key Scripture

Psalms 84:1-12 (Have someone read aloud)

Sermon Overview

The Sons of Korah wrote this psalm expressing deep longing for God's presence. The message challenges us to examine what we truly treasure and find our greatest satisfaction in God alone.

Main Question: What characterizes those who find their greatest satisfaction in God?

Discussion Questions

Part 1: They Treasure His Presence (vv. 1-4)

Questions:

1. The psalmist says his soul "longs, yes, faints" for God's presence. When was the last time you felt that kind of intense desire for God? What circumstances led to that?
2. The sermon mentioned that we can view time with God as either "a prize to be looked upon with great admiration" or "a burden or a box to check." Which category best describes your current devotional life? Be honest.
3. John Piper said, "God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him." What does it look like practically to be satisfied in God rather than just satisfied with His blessings?
4. The illustration was given of a child who has every toy but still longs for their father's presence. How does this picture help you understand what God desires from us?

Part 2: They Trust His Provision (vv. 5-7)

Questions: 5. The "Valley of Baca" represents a place of weeping and hardship. Have you experienced (or are you currently in) such a valley? How have you seen God provide strength in that season?

6. The sermon stated: "God is supplying you grace each and every day. He isn't giving you enough for the entire valley but what He is doing is meeting you at your point of need every day." How does this perspective change the way you approach difficult seasons?
7. Read 2 Corinthians 12:9. Share a time when you experienced God's power being made perfect in your weakness.
8. Charles Spurgeon said we may "occasionally weep deeply over the life you hoped would be," but then we must "trust God and embrace

the life you have." What life circumstances do you need to grieve and then surrender to God's plan?

Part 3: They Thirst for His Favor (vv. 8-10)

Questions: 9. Verse 10 says, "A day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere." Do you truly believe this? What in your life reveals what you actually believe is "better"?

10. The psalmist would rather be a doorkeeper in God's house than dwell in the tents of wickedness. What does it mean to take the "lowest place" with God rather than the "highest place" without Him?
11. Paul considered everything loss compared to knowing Christ (Philippians 3:8). What things compete with Christ for the top position in your heart? (career, relationships, comfort, recognition, etc.)

Part 4: They Take Refuge in His Goodness (vv. 11-12)

Questions: 12. What does it mean that God is both our "sun" (guide) and our "shield" (protector)? How have you experienced both aspects of His character?

13. The sermon said, "A refuge is only useful if ran to, if sat in, if in close proximity to—it is not to be admired from a distance." How can we practically "run to" God as our refuge in daily life?
14. H.B. Charles Jr. said, "Faith is trusting the character of God when you cannot understand the circumstances of life." What current circumstance requires you to trust God's character even though you don't understand?

Key Takeaways

Write these down and share which one resonates most with you:

1. Treasure His Presence - Make time with God a priority, not a checkbox
2. Trust His Provision - God meets us at our point of need daily, especially in valleys
3. Thirst for His Favor - Long for God Himself more than His blessings
4. Take Refuge in His Goodness - Run to God, don't just admire Him from a distance

Practical Application

Individual Reflection (5 minutes of silence)

Ask yourself: "Am I finding my greatest satisfaction in God or in the things of this world?"

Group Sharing

Go around and have each person complete this sentence: "This week, I will treasure God more by..."

Specific Action Steps (Choose 1-2)

- Daily Devotion: Commit to 15 minutes of uninterrupted time with God each morning this week. Journal about what you're learning.
- Identify Idols: Write down 3 things that compete with God for your affection. Pray about surrendering them.
- Valley Walking: If you're in a "Valley of Baca," write down one way God has provided this week. Share it with an accountability partner.
- Worship Focus: During worship this Sunday, intentionally focus on God's presence rather than your circumstances.
- Memorize: Learn Psalm 84:10 by heart this week.

Prayer Time (10-15 minutes)

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for those in the group who are walking through valleys
- Ask God to increase our thirst for His presence
- Confess areas where we've treasured worldly things above God
- Thank God for being our sun, shield, and refuge

Closing Question: *Is there anyone here today who needs to receive Christ as Savior? (Allow time for gospel conversation if needed)*

For Next Week

Encourage group members to read Psalm 84 every day this week and journal their reflections. Come prepared to share one new insight you gained.

Final Challenge: The sermon asked, "So today, what are you treasuring?" Carry this question with you throughout the week and let it recalibrate your priorities.

"Blessed is the one who trusts in you!" - Psalm 84:12