



April 14-15, 2018  
Cry of the Heart for Control  
Dr. Kurt Bjorklund

## MESSAGE NOTES

Psalm 2

The People's Rant (Psalm 2: 1-3)

The Lord's Response (Psalm 2: 4-9)

The Current Reality (Psalm 2: 10-12)

## LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Last week's "Respond/Reinforce" section asked you to spend 10 minutes of intentional time each day reading and meditating on Psalm 1 and, in preparation for this weekend's message, Psalm 2. Before starting on this week's study guide, take a few minutes to share about how this exercise impacted you.

### Reference:

Open in prayer and read Psalm 2.

### Review:

What was one thing from this weekend's message that challenged, confused, or stood out to you?

**Reflect:**

1. Considering the state of the world, some might say that if God is in control, He's not doing a very good job. How would you answer such a challenge?
2. One of the paradoxical truths of the Christian faith is that freedom is defined by giving up control instead of taking control. How does submission to God bring freedom in your life? Where do you still try to hold on to control?
3. Why are the kings and rulers seen as desiring to throw off God's rule (vs. 2)? What is at the heart of their rebellion?
4. Perhaps the two areas where we most seek to be in control is with our time and our money. How can we help one another break the bondage of those two things?
5. In Acts 4:23-31, we see Psalm 2:2 being used as a comforting passage for the developing Christian church that was facing persecution. Why do you think Psalm 2 encouraged them to persevere?
6. In Handel's oratorio, "The Messiah", Handel chose to place the singing of portions of Psalm 2:9 immediately before the famous "Hallelujah Chorus." Why do you think he chose to put a song of celebration immediately after a passage that says God will "dash (the nations) to pieces?"
7. Everyone feels the conflict between wanting to be in charge and recognizing that God is really in charge. How does that influence your everyday life?

**Respond/Reinforce:**

As you pray this week, assume a posture of holding your hands out face up, as if to release control and receive whatever God gives you. This may be uncomfortable at first, but notice how this change in posture affects the posture of your heart before God. Specifically, take things that you've had trouble releasing control of to Him in prayer.