DIVING DEEPER *DISCUSSION GUIDE*

TEXT SUMMARY

Our text on the sovereignty of God is Psalm 93. Combined with Psalms 95-99, this psalm speaks of God's divine kingship, His royal authority over all things.

If ever we needed to stop our thrashing thoughts and settle on one true thing, it is now: the LORD God reigns over all that happens in heaven and earth.

These five verses declare that the God who reigns is mighty and trustworthy.

INTRODUCTION (observation):

1. Let the language of the psalm speak for itself:
    - What does this psalm say God does?
    - What does this psalm say God is?
2. Once again, this psalm features the Covenant Name of God, Yahweh, rendered in our translations as "LORD" which means "the One who Eternally Is." Try reading the psalm aloud, reading "the Eternal One" wherever the text says "LORD." How does this enhance the way you understand this psalm?"

DISCUSSION (interpretation):

1. How is the power of the LORD different from the power of modern heads of state (kings, presidents, prime ministers, etc.)?
2. In the context of the sovereignty of God, why is it important that the psalmist speaks to God's eternal nature (v. 2)? (What word picture does the psalmist use in Psalm 102:25-27 to illustrate the eternal nature of God?)
3. How does the psalmist's word picture of floods illustrate the chaos of the world?

<u>SO WHAT</u>? (application): Here we move toward first-person pronouns as we begin to consider how we must respond to what God has said in His Word.

1. **Does trusting in the sovereignty of God mean that we don't need to pay attention to what is going on in our culture?** What does it look like for someone to be culturally attuned yet theologically grounded? How would their habits and outlook be different from someone who knew nothing about God and His sovereignty?

2. **Someone described it this way: We need to let God's Word be the melody and let our awareness of our cultural moment be the harmony.** What is the effect when we lose our focus on the sovereign majesty of God, when we let the harmony drown out the melody, when we fixate on the chaos in our culture and lose sight of the sovereignty of God? How does that affect our faith? Our mental health?

3. **The psalm ends with this assertion: "Your decrees are very trustworthy."** Two things stand out about that sentence: 1) It focuses our attention on God's "decrees," what He has ordained. 2) His decrees are not just trustworthy, they are very trustworthy.
    - What are the mental habits of someone who has cultivated this kind of settled confidence in the trustworthiness of God's decrees?
    - How can we cultivate that kind of confidence?