

Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: **SUMMER PLAYLIST** Message: **PSALM 15 – A Song of God’s Presence**

July 28, 2019



Connect (15min)

1. ICEBREAKER Q?

- a. Share 1 Highlight from the Summer so far.
- b. What is 1 thing you are looking forward to in August.

2. What have you been focusing on in your Bible reading & prayer (personal devotions) this Summer?

What is one thing you were encouraged or challenged by in that time? What are your reading plans for August?

3. Take a couple minutes as a group to respond with praise and thanks to God.

Sunday Message Feedback (45min)

*Speaker: Shawn Vandop – Lead Pastor.

1. SUMMER PLAYLIST:

- a. Have you ever made or had a summer playlist (of songs), a mixtape/cd...for a road trip or the beach? What is one of your favourite summertime songs?
- b. Do you have a favourite song on the radio or your playlist this summer, or one that’s just stuck in your head?

2. Psalm Therapy

- a. Have you ever read through the Book of Psalms? Do you have a favorite Psalm from the Bible?
- b. Have you found the Psalms *therapeutic* – in dealing the realities of life and your relationship with God? How?
- c. How do the Psalms reflect our humanity and connect us to God’s presence and power?

*Our Summer Series (July/Aug 2019) is called [Summer Playlist](#), and focuses on a different Psalm each Sunday.

3. Read [Psalm 15 – A Song of God’s Presence](#)

- a. Have you ever found yourself in a situation where you were fully present, aware and focused on where you were and what or who was around you? Share an example...

[Pastor Shawn shared examples of his wedding day, the birth of his kids, meeting Joe Montana in the Museum...]

- b. Share an example of a time or situation when you were physically present but emotionally/mentally absent.

- c. The Psalms consistently express a desire to live with an awareness of the presence of God in our everyday lives. They inform, encourage and challenge us in this important area of life.

*As you’ve read the Psalms, have you found this to be true in any way?

4. Psalm 15:1. *Who may worship in your sanctuary (tent/tabernacle) Lord? Who may enter your presence...?*

*Why & How is this question and desire a great one for all of us to consider and pursue further?

5. Shawn highlighted **Five Ways we can Live in the Very Presence of God**, based on Psalm 15.

How do they each encourage or challenge you? What questions or steps does Psalm 15 leave you with?

1. Be BLAMELESS (v.2a)

- a. What does it mean to live a blameless life? (not a perfect life)
- b. How does taking responsibility for our lives, choices and sin awaken us to the presence of God?

2. Be TRUTHFUL (v.2b-3) – Godly Communication

a. Consider these important factors/components of healthy communication:

- i. *Truth* – is it accurate (not exaggerated or over generalized...)?
- ii. *Timing* – is it the best time of day/week, moment, season to address this? Is it necessary?
- iii. *Tone* – is one's tone appropriate? consider volume, intensity, sarcasm...
- iv. *Intention (Motive)* – is it selfish, manipulative, sincere, moved by love...?, constructive, helpful?
- v. *Attention* – consider non-verbal body language, eye contact, distractions (tech), sincere engagement...

b. Which of these are your strong in and which one challenges you the most? How so...?

3. Give HONOUR to those worthy of it

a. *The voice you listen to the most will determine the direction of your life.*

Are you listening to and following the right leaders/heroes/examples? How do you discern & decide?

b. Are they pointing you towards God or away from Him?

4. Be LOYAL

a. Do I make & keep the right commitments – even in the small stuff, the inconvenient stuff, the painful stuff?

5. Be GENEROUS

a. Do I leverage and invest the resources God's given me for good and seek to grow in generosity, or do I take advantage of others?

b. God is a Giver at heart (John 3:16), so sincere generosity connects us with His heart and mission.

How have you experience this to be true in your journey?

6. Read [Psalm 15](#) again. How do these Characteristics help us *stand firm forever*, including today & tomorrow?

7. How did JESUS open/create new access for us into the *sanctuary* (the *Presence of God*) through His pure and victorious sacrifice on the cross?

Read [Matthew 27:50-51](#), [Hebrews 4:16](#), [Hebrews 10:19-20](#), [Ephesians 3:11-12](#)

– what did it mean for the Temple Veil to be torn open, and what did Christ accomplish for us?

<https://www.gotquestions.org/temple-veil-torn.html>

Application & Prayer (20min)

***Challenge:** Read & Pray through one Psalm each day in August.

***Challenge:** Begin each day in August in prayer and invite God to make you more and more aware of His presence, His heart, His mission, and the opportunities He has for you to engage and invest.

***In Response to our Study/Discussion – how can we Pray for you today?**

> *healing, provision, protection, power, personal transformation, accountability, outreach opportunities...*

Resources to Consider

http://www.openbible.info/topics/gods_presence

<https://www.gotquestions.org/temple-veil-torn.html>

[The Bible Project : Overview : Psalms](#) (YouTube) [The Bible Project : The Book of Psalms](#) (YouTube)

Announcements

SUMMER CONNECT GROUP

Wednesdays, July 31-August 28. 7pm-8:30pm – Main Street Café. Drop-In Group. Leader: Eryn Moore

*Regular **Life Groups** begin mid-September.

NEXT STEPS

Sunday, August 18. 12:15pm-1:30pm. Conference Room A. Lunch & Childcare provided. Leader: Eryn Moore

<https://mainstreetchurch.ca/nextsteps>

FALL KICKOFF & BAPTISM CELEBRATION

Sunday, September 8. 9am & 10:45am Services.

<https://mainstreetchurch.ca/baptism>