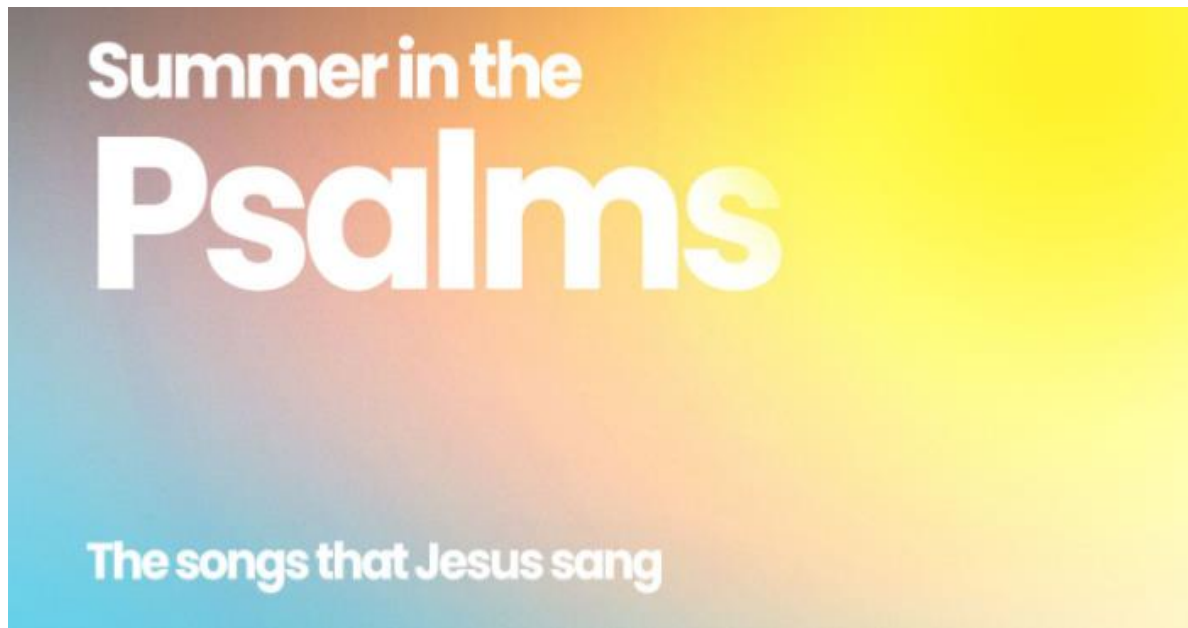




Light Sown – Psalm 97

Jesus is King and he will come to judge in righteousness and make all things well. While we wait, he sows seeds of light and joy in his people to harvest when he comes. Listen in as Simon takes us into Psalm 97 where we hear about God the majestic king and the reason the whole earth will rejoice when he comes.

For personal reflection/ community discussion:

1. Read psalm 97 together. What does it mean that the LORD reigns as king? Why is it such good news that the whole earth shall rejoice? If the Lord is your king, what does mean for your own life?
2. Look at verses 2-6 again: Does this description of God fit easy for you? What does it mean that he is covered by clouds and darkness? Consider what this teaches us about God's being and how we relate to him.
3. Consider again what Bonhoeffer wrote to his friend: "Incidentally, God is still in Control." Yet if we look at our surrounding culture, it could seem that God is not. How does psalm 97 deal with this tension? Think about what God's reign might mean for your own heart in difficulties of all sorts.
4. Read verses 7-9: What will the outcome of God's judgement be? What does this warn us of and how might God's judgement comfort us? Consider that Jesus will defeat every false god and make all things well and right.

5. God sows light in the midst of darkness and joy in the midst of sorrow and it will sprout and eventually bring a bright and joyous harvest. Christ has died and Christ has risen: He will lead us through death to life. Christ will come again in glory: We will be glorified with him in the harvest of light and joy - How does Jesus grow his joy in us? How does the metaphor of light sown like a seed help us wait for Jesus in times of darkness and sorrow? How does this link with his reign as king?
6. Take some time to pray for each other.