

A Season for a Psalm: Week 5, Gathering Matters

Scott Merriner, July 12, 2020 Small Group Discussion Questions

Getting Started

Take some time to catch up and connect as a group. Pray before discussion. Expect God to move through your time together!

Pacing Your Group

Move quickly through "observation" leaving enough time for "reflection", "discussion", and "surrender."

Scripture Reading

Re-read the scripture passages as needed when you discuss the questions.

Observation: What does this scripture passage say?

Read: Psalm 84

- 1. What feelings and longings are expressed in the first verses of this psalm? (v1-4)
- 2. Describe the journey and pilgrimage found in verses 5-8.
- 3. What provision is given by God in verses 10-12?

Reflection and Discussion: What are some first thoughts flowing from the scriptures? Talk together about how the scriptures connect to everyday life.

- 4. The writer of this psalm longed to get away from the bustling world to meet God inside his dwelling place, his holy temple. We can meet with God anywhere, at any time. But we know that going into an actual church building among followers of Christ can help us step aside from the busy mainstream of life. How and why is gathering together important?
- 5. Growing strong in God's presence is often preceded by a journey through barren places in our lives. The person who loves to spend time with God will see his or her adversity as an opportunity to re-experience God's faithfulness. The difficult seasons we walk through are opportunities to lead us toward God, not away from him. Describe a journey or a season that you have gone through in your life and how it led you toward God or away from God.
- 6. The end of this psalm connects God's blessings to trust. How would you define "trusting in God"?

Surrender: Responding to God's voice.

- 7. What is one thing God is saying to you through this study and discussion?
 - ** Take some time to pray for one another in response to what has been discussed today **