



Faith Community Church
Preparation of the Heart
(Psalms, Part 10)

Faith Group Questions
& Discussion Guide



🙏 **Opening Prayer:** Father, ignite us with the importance of preparing our hearts to hear Your voice and to pass on to future generations the truths You have taught us.

🧊 **Icebreaker:** What is one specific sound—like a phone notification, a kettle whistling, or a child's cry—that instantly catches your attention no matter how noisy a room is?

🔑 **Key Points**

1. **Inclining our ears.** Hearing God's Word requires intentional, disciplined focus—we must actively incline our ears and remember rather than passively listen (and forget).
2. **Learning from history.** Reading Scripture isn't just about learning facts. The records, *parables*, help us learn from both past failures and past victories.
3. **Passing the Torch.** Every believer holds a sacred responsibility to pass down stories of God's character and works to the rising generation.
4. **Spiritual readiness.** Preparing our hearts is a proactive choice to condition our hearts through Scripture, prayer, and trust before life's crises hit.

💬 **Discussion Questions**

1. Did you shift your speech, implement a first-response prayer practice, or surrender an uncertainty? Tell us about it!
2. Psalm 78:1 calls us to "incline our ears" to God's instruction. What is the difference between simply hearing a sermon or scripture and actively inclining your ear to it? (James 1:19-25)
3. Parables place past history alongside current events for comparison. Looking at Israel's history, what is one past mistake you see believers often repeating today? If you're bold, how have YOU made that mistake? (Psalm 78:13-31, Hebrews 3:15-19)

4. Ps 78:4 emphasizes passing down "the praises of the Lord, and His strength and His wondrous works." What is a specific story of God's power or provision in your life that you can share with younger believers? (Deuteronomy 6:6-7)
5. How do daily distractions or cultural noise hinder our ability to pass spiritual truth on to the next generation? (1 Timothy 1:4-5, Hebrews 13:9)
6. Psalm 78:8 warns against being part of a generation that "did not prepare its heart." What does a heart that is *unprepared* look like in everyday life? (Refer back to the Psalm 78 verses in question 3)
7. When King Jehoshaphat faced a terrifying crisis in 2 Chronicles 20, his first reaction was to seek God and remember who God is. How can we build the habit of turning to God first rather than reacting in panic? (Psalm 34:1-4)
8. How can we, as a church community, better equip and support parents as they work to be spiritual teachers in their homes? How can we encourage all members to build up the next generation?



Practical Applications

1. **Establish a Daily Truth Habit:** Dedicate 10–15 minutes each morning to reading a portion of Scripture with a notebook, actively writing down one thing you hear God speaking to YOU.
2. **Share a Faith Story:** Identify one young person in your family, neighborhood, or church this week, and share a 2-minute personal story of a time God answered a prayer or provided for you.
3. **Battle Focus:** Before facing a known weekly stressor (a hard work meeting, family situation, or financial task), spend five minutes praying through 2 Chronicles 20:12: "*We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on You.*"



Closing Prayer: Lord, You have asked us to prepare our hearts - to listen for Your voice. Help us to look to You this week, to hear You, to adjust to Your guidance, and to intentionally build up the next generation with Your truth. Amen.