

PSALMS

Psalms 16 | Sunday, July 12, 2026

(5-10 min) Optional Ice Breaker: Aside from your home country, which team would you love to see win the FIFA World Cup this year, and what makes you root for them?

LEADERS: Please share these announcements with your Home Group!

Announcements

Backpack Drive, Sunday, July 19th

*Help provide school supplies to a family in need. You will be matched with a family and provided instructions for contacting the family to get information about the supplies they need. Stop by our table in the foyer on **July 19** to learn more or contact us for more information.*

Read God's Word Aloud

Psalms 16 (ESV)

¹ Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

² I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord;
I have no good apart from you."

³ As for the saints in the land, they are the excellent ones,
in whom is all my delight.

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- ⁴ The sorrows of those who run after another god shall multiply;
their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out
or take their names on my lips.
- ⁵ The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup;
you hold my lot.
- ⁶ The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.
- ⁷ I bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.
- ⁸ I have set the LORD always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.
- ⁹ Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices;
my flesh also dwells secure.
- ¹⁰ For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol,
or let your holy one see corruption.
- ¹¹ You make known to me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy;
at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Discuss God's Word and God's World

Important: The goal is to use this Guide to spark sanctifying conversation and opportunities for intercessory prayer, not to “get through” every question like a checklist. Feel free to linger on the questions that best facilitate that for your group.

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Start here: *Take a few moments to share and reflect together on what stood out to you from this week's Bible passage and the sermon about it.*

- 1. Heading into the Storm** - Cory opened the sermon by talking about how we naturally look for safety and refuge—whether it's building a bedtime routine for a toddler, buying insurance, or setting up security cameras. When a storm hits your life (grief, stress, unexpected transitions), what is your immediate, instinctive "first outcry"? Where do you naturally go first to cope or feel safe?
- 2. Spotting the Counterfeits** - In verse 4, David warns that running after other gods multiplies our sorrows. Cory referenced David Foster Wallace's idea that *everyone* worships something by default (e.g., money, beauty, intellect, comfort, control).
 - When you are feeling anxious or overwhelmed, which of these modern "cultural gods" are you most tempted to run to for refuge? How have you seen that specific pursuit actually "multiply your sorrows" rather than fix the problem?
 - Take a moment to confess any tiny gods or source idols that you've run to over and over.
- 3. Internalizing Truth in the Dark** - David writes about God being his "counselor in the night," (vs 7) instructing his heart when the world finally slows down. For many of us, the quiet hours of the night are when our worries and anxieties scream loudest.
 - What does your heart typically tell you in those quiet, distracted-free hours? What is one practical way you can begin to "deeply internalize" God's promises during the day so that they become your default programming when the lights go out?
- 4. Shifting Your Sightline** (*Psalms 16:8*) Cory used the battlefield imagery of a defender standing at your vulnerable right side, noting that David *deliberately* set the Lord before him. Keeping God at the center of our vision is a daily, active discipline.

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- Look at your current weekly routine. What practical, daily habits or rhythms help you "set the Lord always before you"? What is currently competing hardest to become the "controlling reality" of your vision right now?
- 5. The Four "S" Checklist** (*Psalms 16:5-11*) Through the imagery of Psalm 16, we see that because of God, we are **Set (Secure)**, **Safe**, **Strong**, and **Satisfied**.
- Which of those four words do you find easiest to believe about your relationship with God right now? Which one do you struggle to feel or believe the most? Why do you think that is?
- 6. Poisoning the Monster** (*Psalms 16:9-11 & Acts 2*) The climax of the sermon focused on how Jesus went into the grave and "poisoned death from the inside out," meaning His victory is our victory through our union with Him. Because of the empty tomb, our security doesn't stop at the grave.
- How does knowing that death has been fundamentally defeated change the way you face your specific fears, medical diagnoses, aging, or future uncertainties this week? How can we as a group help remind each other of this ultimate satisfaction when we start to wander?
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Sanctificational Prayer Guidance

Father, help us find our security, safety, strength and satisfaction in You alone, trusting that Your presence is enough for every season of life.

Jesus, fill our hearts with the fullness of joy that is found in Your presence and help us live each day with confidence in Your goodness and faithfulness.



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Family Memory Verse of the Month for July

Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 (ESV)