**A Summer in Psalms**

The Book of Psalms is a collection of five smaller books; each a compilation of ancient Hebrew songs and poems devoted to the praise and worship of God. Written over centuries by various authors, the Book of Psalms, or “Praises”, served as a hymnbook for Jewish congregational worship as well as private worship and devotion. The Psalms continue to help worshippers draw near the heart of God today! Last summer we studied Psalms from Book One (Psalms 1-41) written by King David, a man after God’s own heart. This year we move to Book Two (Psalms 42-72 ) to ponder and meditate on Psalms of David and others who sought to glorify God and abide in His presence!

For your weekly studies, we encourage you to use this lesson sheet and/or your own notebook to record what the Lord shows you. Though the questions on this sheet will remain the same, the Lord will provide fresh insight through His living Word.

**Prepare**

Before you begin, pray to quiet your heart and mind and focus your attention on the Lord. As you study, ask the Holy Spirit to guide and instruct you. Take time to follow His lead, and pray for wisdom and understanding as you go.

**Study and Reflect**

1. Read through the psalm. Ponder each verse, taking note of what draws your attention. Follow any prompts from the Lord to look more deeply into the Scriptures. Define unfamiliar or interesting words and note any questions.
2. Choose a word or idea from the psalm you would like to explore, then find other Scriptures to help expand your understanding of it.
3. Spend a few minutes meditating on a verse that resonates with you. Share your observations and insights.

**Apply and Respond**

1. What has the Lord shown you through your study? How will you apply what you have learned?

Take time to respond to the Lord however He leads you. Consider utilizing the words or theme of the Psalmist to offer your own personal prayer, praise or worship to God.

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*“Shout for joy to God, all the earth; sing the glory of His name;
give to Him glorious praise!” Psalm 66:1-2*