

STUDY GUIDE

A Summer Study in the Book of Psalms

Welcome to Summer Bible Study!

As we begin our study together, let us direct our minds and hearts to seek the Lord in His word. May our purpose be not only to understand what has been written, but to also personally grow in relationship with the Lord and with one another.

This summer, we will examine a Psalm of David each week. This Study guide, along with the companion Lesson Sheet, are designed to facilitate your exploration of Scripture. The questions on the Lesson Sheet are not specific to any passage but are meant to serve as prompts in your study process. Please use the Lesson Sheet as desired, and record your thoughts/notes in a notebook, on your computer, or wherever is best for you. We know that the Holy Spirit will guide us together into all truth according to the Word of Christ, *John 16:13*.

In the *Study* section of your Lesson Sheet, the questions/prompts are designed to facilitate understanding of the passage: what does it say and what does it mean?

The *Apply and Respond* section is for your reflection and response: to identify insights the Lord has revealed, make personal application of the Scriptures, and determine what actions to take.

Some suggestions to enhance your personal study in the Scriptures:

- Read the passage multiple times to better recognize patterns or themes
- Explore related passages and let the Scripture interpret itself
- Use a Bible dictionary and concordance to look up terms as needed. Online tools like studylight.org or blueletterbible.org are free and easily accessible
- Hold off on consulting others' interpretations of the passage until after meeting: this includes commentaries, sermons, blogs, & Study Bible notes
- Meditate (think about, pray over, dwell) on Scripture
- Paraphrase to gain clearer understanding
- Optional: Print out the Bible section in double spaced format and highlight repeated words/phrases, Biblical themes or symbolism. You can also record insights, questions and related Scriptures

In conclusion, we encourage you to try out various methods of study, to ask God to increase your desire to read and understand His word, and to be patient with yourself and others as we learn together. Do not hesitate to connect with your leader with questions when needed!

*I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father,
would give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation
in the knowledge of Him.*

Ephesians 1:17