

# PSALM 1

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- 1 Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;
- 2 but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.
- 3 He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.
- 4 The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;
- 6 for the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*Does every way lead to the same destination?*

*What is the key to being blessed by the Lord?*

*What is the evidence of being blessed by the Lord?*

# PSALM 2

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- 1 Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?
- 2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against his anointed, saying,
- 3 "Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us."
- 4 He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision.
- 5 Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying,
- 6 "As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill."
- 7 I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you.
- 8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.
- 9 You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."
- 10 Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.
- 11 Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.
- 12 Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled.

Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

## Questions to reflect on

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*How is this psalm different than Psalm 1?*

*Why is this psalm important?*

*What is significant about fear and trembling in verse 11?*

# PSALM 3

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- 1 A Psalm of David, when he fled from Absalom his son. O LORD, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me;
- 2 many are saying of my soul, there is no salvation for him in God. Selah.
- 3 But you, O LORD, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head.
- 4 I cried aloud to the LORD, and he answered me from his holy hill. Selah.
- 5 I lay down and slept; I woke again, for the LORD sustained me.
- 6 I will not be afraid of many thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around.
- 7 Arise, O LORD! Save me, O my God! For you strike all my enemies on the cheek; you break the teeth of the wicked.
- 8 Salvation belongs to the LORD; your blessing be on your people! Selah.

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

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*What event motivated this psalm and how significant was this event in the life of David?*

*What does David do first?*

*How does David see God?*

*What is David's request?*

*How is this psalm a model for us?*

# PSALM 4

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- 1 To the choirmaster: with stringed instruments. A Psalm of David. Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have given me relief when I was in distress. Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!
- 2 O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame? How long will you love vain words and seek after lies? Selah.
- 3 But know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself; the LORD hears when I call to him.
- 4 Be angry, and do not sin; ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent. Selah.
- 5 Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.
- 6 There are many who say, "Who will show us some good? Lift up the light of your face upon us, O LORD!"
- 7 You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound.
- 8 In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.

## Questions to reflect on

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*What are David's requests in verse 1?*

*Does David just ask of God in verse 1? Why is this significant?*

*Who is David talking to in verses 2-5?*

*What is he trying to do?*

*How do his words to them apply to us?*

*In verses 6-7 what is the contrast in the good many desire to the good that David desires?*

*Why can David sleep?*

# PSALM 5

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- 1 To the choirmaster: for the flutes. A Psalm of David. Give ear to my words, O LORD; consider my groaning.
- 2 Give attention to the sound of my cry, my King and my God, for to you do I pray.
- 3 O LORD, in the morning you hear my voice; in the morning I prepare a sacrifice for you and watch.
- 4 For you are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with you.
- 5 The boastful shall not stand before your eyes; you hate all evildoers.
- 6 You destroy those who speak lies; the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.
- 7 But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will enter your house. I will bow down toward your holy temple in the fear of you.
- 8 Lead me, O LORD, in your righteousness because of my enemies; make your way straight before me.
- 9 For there is no truth in their mouth; their inmost self is destruction; their throat is an open grave; they flatter with their tongue.
- 10 Make them bear their guilt, O God; let them fall by their own counsels; because of the abundance of their transgressions cast them out, for they have rebelled against you.
- 11 But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy, and spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may exult in you.
- 12 For you bless the righteous, O LORD; you cover him with favor as with a shield.

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*What are David's requests of God?*

*What does David do in addition to making requests of God?*

*What character attributes and works of God are revealed in this psalm?*

*Does God regularly hear your voice? In the morning? Throughout the day?*

# PSALM 6

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- 1 To the choirmaster: with stringed instruments; according to The Sheminith. A Psalm of David. O LORD, rebuke me not in your anger, nor discipline me in your wrath.
- 2 Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am languishing; heal me, O LORD, for my bones are troubled.
- 3 My soul also is greatly troubled. But you, O LORD-- how long?
- 4 Turn, O LORD, deliver my life; save me for the sake of your steadfast love.
- 5 For in death there is no remembrance of you; in Sheol who will give you praise?
- 6 I am weary with my moaning; every night I flood my bed with tears; I drench my couch with my weeping.
- 7 My eye wastes away because of grief; it grows weak because of all my foes.
- 8 Depart from me, all you workers of evil, for the LORD has heard the sound of my weeping.
- 9 The LORD has heard my plea; the LORD accepts my prayer.

- 10 All my enemies shall be ashamed and greatly troubled; they shall turn back and be put to shame in a moment.

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*How does David begin this psalm?  
Where is he at spiritually,  
physically and emotionally?*

*Have you ever identified with  
David?*

*How does David end this psalm?  
What has changed?*

*What do we learn from David?*

# PSALM 7

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- 1 A Shiggaion of David, which he sang to the LORD concerning the words of Cush, a Benjaminite. O LORD my God, in you do I take refuge; save me from all my pursuers and deliver me,
- 2 lest like a lion they tear my soul apart, rending it in pieces, with none to deliver.
- 3 O LORD my God, if I have done this, if there is wrong in my hands,
- 4 if I have repaid my friend with evil or plundered my enemy without cause,
- 5 let the enemy pursue my soul and overtake it, and let him trample my life to the ground and lay my glory in the dust. Selah.
- 6 Arise, O LORD, in your anger; lift yourself up against the fury of my enemies; awake for me; you have appointed a judgment.
- 7 Let the assembly of the peoples be gathered about you; over it return on high.
- 8 The LORD judges the peoples; judge me, O LORD, according to my righteousness and according to the integrity that is in me.
- 9 Oh, let the evil of the wicked come to an end, and may you establish the righteous-- you who test the minds and hearts, O righteous God!
- 10 My shield is with God, who saves the upright in heart.
- 11 God is a righteous judge, and a God who feels indignation every day.
- 12 If a man does not repent, God will whet his sword; he has bent and readied his bow;
- 13 he has prepared for him his deadly weapons, making his arrows fiery shafts.
- 14 Behold, the wicked man conceives evil and is pregnant with mischief and gives birth to lies.
- 15 He makes a pit, digging it out, and falls into the hole that he has made.
- 16 His mischief returns upon his own head, and on his own skull his violence descends.
- 17 I will give to the LORD the thanks due to his righteousness, and I will sing praise to the name of the LORD, the Most High.

## Questions to reflect on

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### *What are David's requests of God?*

### *Does David believe he is innocent of wrong doing? Explain*

### *What character traits does David ascribe to God?*

### *What is in store for the wicked who won't repent?*

### *How does David end the psalm?*

# PSALM 8

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- 1 To the choirmaster:  
according to The Gittith. A  
Psalm of David. O LORD,  
our Lord, how majestic is  
your name in all the earth!  
You have set your glory  
above the heavens.
- 2 Out of the mouth of babes  
and infants, you have  
established strength because  
of your foes, to still the  
enemy and the avenger.
- 3 When I look at your heavens,  
the work of your fingers, the  
moon and the stars, which  
you have set in place,
- 4 what is man that you are  
mindful of him, and the son  
of man that you care for  
him?
- 5 Yet you have made him a  
little lower than the heavenly  
beings and crowned him  
with glory and honor.
- 6 You have given him  
dominion over the works of  
your hands; you have put all  
things under his feet,
- 7 all sheep and oxen, and also  
the beasts of the field,
- 8 the birds of the heavens, and  
the fish of the sea, whatever  
passes along the paths of the  
seas.

- 9 O LORD, our Lord, how  
majestic is your name in all  
the earth!

## Questions to reflect on

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*If we were to put this psalm to music which song category would you place it in? Explain*

*What is it about God that surprises David?*

*Where does man fit in the scheme of things?*

*How does David see God?*

# PSALM 9

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- 1 To the choirmaster: according to Muth-labben. A Psalm of David. I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart; I will recount all of your wonderful deeds.
- 2 I will be glad and exult in you; I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.
- 3 When my enemies turn back, they stumble and perish before your presence.
- 4 For you have maintained my just cause; you have sat on the throne, giving righteous judgment.
- 5 You have rebuked the nations; you have made the wicked perish; you have blotted out their name forever and ever.
- 6 The enemy came to an end in everlasting ruins; their cities you rooted out; the very memory of them has perished.
- 7 But the LORD sits enthroned forever; he has established his throne for justice,
- 8 and he judges the world with righteousness; he judges the peoples with uprightness.
- 9 The LORD is a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.
- 10 And those who know your name put their trust in you, for you, O LORD, have not forsaken those who seek you.
- 11 Sing praises to the LORD, who sits enthroned in Zion! Tell among the peoples his deeds!
- 12 For he who avenges blood is mindful of them; he does not forget the cry of the afflicted.
- 13 Be gracious to me, O LORD! See my affliction from those who hate me, O you who lift me up from the gates of death,
- 14 that I may recount all your praises, that in the gates of the daughter of Zion I may rejoice in your salvation.
- 15 The nations have sunk in the pit that they made; in the net that they hid their own foot has been caught.
- 16 The LORD has made himself known; he has executed judgment; the wicked are snared in the work of their own hands. Higgaiion. Selah.
- 17 The wicked shall return to Sheol, all the nations that forget God.
- 18 For the needy shall not always be forgotten, and the hope of the poor shall not perish forever.
- 19 Arise, O LORD! Let not man prevail; let the nations be judged before you!
- 20 Put them in fear, O LORD! Let the nations know that they are but men! Selah.

## Questions to reflect on

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*If we were to put this psalm to music which song category would you place it in? Explain*

*How does David give thanks to the Lord?*

*What are David's prayer requests?*

*How does David see heaven and hell?*

# PSALM 10

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- 1 Why, O LORD, do you stand afar off?  
Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?
- 2 In arrogance the wicked hotly pursue the poor; let them be caught in the schemes that they have devised.
- 3 For the wicked boasts of the desires of his soul, and the one greedy for gain curses and renounces the LORD.
- 4 In the pride of his face the wicked does not seek him; all his thoughts are, "There is no God."
- 5 His ways prosper at all times; your judgments are on high, out of his sight; as for all his foes, he puffs at them.
- 6 He says in his heart, "I shall not be moved; throughout all generations I shall not meet adversity."
- 7 His mouth is filled with cursing and deceit and oppression; under his tongue are mischief and iniquity.
- 8 He sits in ambush in the villages; in hiding places he murders the innocent. His eyes stealthily watch for the helpless;
- 9 he lurks in ambush like a lion in his thicket; he lurks that he may seize the poor; he seizes the poor when he draws him into his net.
- 10 The helpless are crushed, sink down, and fall by his might.
- 11 He says in his heart, "God has forgotten, he has hidden his face, he will never see it."
- 12 Arise, O LORD; O God, lift up your hand; forget not the afflicted.
- 13 Why does the wicked renounce God and say in his heart, "You will not call to account"?
- 14 But you do see, for you note mischief and vexation, that you may take it into your hands; to you the helpless commits himself; you have been the helper of the fatherless.
- 15 Break the arm of the wicked and evildoer; call his wickedness to account till you find none.
- 16 The LORD is king forever and ever; the nations perish from his land.
- 17 O LORD, you hear the desire of the afflicted; you will strengthen their heart; you will incline your ear to do justice to the fatherless and the oppressed, so that man who is of the earth may strike terror no more.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

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*What are the psalmist's questions to God? Have you ever asked God questions like these?*

*How does the psalmist describe the wicked and why is he frustrated with them?*

*What are the psalmist's requests of God?*

*What does the psalmist believe about God*

# PSALM 11

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- 1 To the choirmaster. Of David.  
In the LORD I take refuge;  
how can you say to my soul,  
"Flee like a bird to your  
mountain,
- 2 for behold, the wicked bend  
the bow; they have fitted  
their arrow to the string to  
shoot in the dark at the  
upright in heart;
- 3 if the foundations are  
destroyed, what can the  
righteous do?"
- 4 The LORD is in his holy  
temple; the LORD's throne  
is in heaven; his eyes see, his  
eyelids test, the children of  
man.
- 5 The LORD tests the  
righteous, but his soul hates  
the wicked and the one who  
loves violence.
- 6 Let him rain coals on the  
wicked; fire and sulfur and a  
scorching wind shall be the  
portion of their cup.
- 7 For the LORD is righteous;  
he loves righteous deeds; the  
upright shall behold his face.

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*What advice is given to David in the first three verses?*

*What is David's response?*

*How does David see God?*

*What is the promise to the upright?*

# PSALM 12

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**Psa 12:1** To the choirmaster:  
according to The Sheminith.  
A Psalm of David. Save, O  
LORD, for the godly one is  
gone; for the faithful have  
vanished from among the  
children of man.

**Psa 12:2** Everyone utters lies to  
his neighbor; with flattering  
lips and a double heart they  
speak.

**Psa 12:3** May the LORD cut off  
all flattering lips, the tongue  
that makes great boasts,

**Psa 12:4** those who say, "With  
our tongue we will prevail,  
our lips are with us; who is  
master over us?"

**Psa 12:5** "Because the poor are  
plundered, because the  
needy groan, I will now  
arise," says the LORD; "I will  
place him in the safety for  
which he longs."

**Psa 12:6** The words of the  
LORD are pure words, like  
silver refined in a furnace on  
the ground, purified seven  
times.

**Psa 12:7** You, O LORD, will  
keep them; you will guard us  
from this generation forever.

**Psa 12:8** On every side the  
wicked prowl, as vileness is  
exalted among the children  
of man.

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*What is David's lament in verses 1-2?*

*What does David ask God to do in verses 3-4?*

*Who is speaking in verse 5? What has happened?*

*How does David view God's Word?*

*Where is David's confidence?*

*Why such an ending?*

*What does this Psalm teach us?*

# PSALM 13

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**Psa 13:1** To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David. How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?

**Psa 13:2** How long must I take counsel in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all the day? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?

**Psa 13:3** Consider and answer me, O LORD my God; light up my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death,

**Psa 13:4** lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," lest my foes rejoice because I am shaken.

**Psa 13:5** But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.

**Psa 13:6** I will sing to the LORD, because he has dealt bountifully with me.

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

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*How many questions does David ask God?*

*What is the theme of those questions?*

*Where is David's confidence?*

*Does everything have to be going well for David to sing?*

*What does David's response tell us about how he lives his faith?  
About how we should live our faith?*

# PSALM 14

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**Psa 14:1** To the choirmaster.  
Of David. The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."  
They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds, there is none who does good.

**Psa 14:2** The LORD looks down from heaven on the children of man, to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God.

**Psa 14:3** They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one.

**Psa 14:4** Have they no knowledge, all the evildoers who eat up my people as they eat bread and do not call upon the LORD?

**Psa 14:5** There they are in great terror, for God is with the generation of the righteous.

**Psa 14:6** You would shame the plans of the poor, but the LORD is his refuge.

**Psa 14:7** Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion! When the LORD restores the fortunes of his people, let Jacob rejoice, let Israel be glad.

## Questions to reflect on

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*How is a fool characterized in this Psalm?*

*What do the first three verses remind us of?*

*What are the characteristics of evildoers?*

*Why are evil people in great terror?*

*What are the characteristics of the righteous?*

*What is the promise?*

*What is our lesson for today in this psalm?*

# PSALM 15

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**Psa 15:1** A Psalm of David. O LORD, who shall sojourn in your tent? Who shall dwell on your holy hill?

**Psa 15:2** He who walks blamelessly and does what is right and speaks truth in his heart;

**Psa 15:3** who does not slander with his tongue and does no evil to his neighbor, nor takes up a reproach against his friend;

**Psa 15:4** in whose eyes a vile person is despised, but who honors those who fear the LORD; who swears to his own hurt and does not change;

**Psa 15:5** who does not put out his money at interest and does not take a bribe against the innocent. He who does these things shall never be moved.

## Questions to reflect on

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*What is the question posed by David in this psalm?*

*Who is the question directed to?*

*What is the answer and whose answer is it?*

*Who can meet the conditions specified?*

*Then why lay out such conditions? Does our character and behavior matter?*

# PSALM 16

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**Psa 16:1** A Miktam of David.

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

**Psa 16:2** I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you."

**Psa 16:3** As for the saints in the land, they are the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight.

**Psa 16:4** 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.

**Psa 16:5** The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.

**Psa 16:6** The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.

**Psa 16:7** I bless the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.

**Psa 16:8** I have set the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

**Psa 16:9** Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure.

**Psa 16:10** For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption.

**Psa 16:11** You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

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*What is David's declaration in verse 2?*

*In verse what does David observe about "those who run after another god" and where does he stand (v 5,6,11)?*

*How does David see God in verse 7?*

*In verse 8 where is David's confidence?*

*What is the significance of verse 10?*

# PSALM 17

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In the Shadow of Your Wings  
A Prayer of David.

1Hear a just cause, O LORD; attend to my cry!  
Give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit!  
2From your presence let my vindication come!  
Let your eyes behold the right!

3You have tried my heart, you have visited me  
by night, you have tested me, and you will find  
nothing; I have purposed that my mouth will not  
transgress.

4With regard to the works of man, by the word  
of your lips I have avoided the ways of the  
violent.

5My steps have held fast to your paths;  
my feet have not slipped.

6I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God;  
incline your ear to me; hear my words.

7Wondrously show your steadfast love,  
O Savior of those who seek refuge  
from their adversaries at your right hand.

8Keep me as the apple of your eye;  
hide me in the shadow of your wings,  
9from the wicked who do me violence,  
my deadly enemies who surround me.

10They close their hearts to pity;  
with their mouths they speak arrogantly.  
11They have now surrounded our steps;  
they set their eyes to cast us to the ground.  
12He is like a lion eager to tear,  
as a young lion lurking in ambush.

13Arise, O LORD! Confront him, subdue him!  
Deliver my soul from the wicked by your sword,  
14from men by your hand, O LORD, from men  
of the world whose portion is in this life. You  
fill their womb with treasure; they are satisfied  
with children, and they leave their abundance to  
their infants.

15As for me, I shall behold your face in  
righteousness; when I awake, I shall be satisfied  
with your likeness.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### *What is David asking the Lord to do for him?*

### *What is David claiming about his conduct?*

### *How does David characterize "men of the world"?*

### *How does David contrast himself with "men of the world"? What is his priority?*

### *What is our lesson from David in this psalm?*

# PSALM 18

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- Psa 18:1** To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David, the servant of the LORD, who addressed the words of this song to the LORD on the day when the LORD rescued him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul. He said: I love you, O LORD, my strength.
- Psa 18:2** The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.
- Psa 18:3** I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies.
- Psa 18:4** The cords of death encompassed me; the torrents of destruction assailed me;
- Psa 18:5** the cords of Sheol entangled me; the snares of death confronted me.
- Psa 18:6** In my distress I called upon the LORD; to my God I cried for help. From his temple he heard my voice, and my cry to him reached his ears.
- Psa 18:7** Then the earth reeled and rocked; the foundations also of the mountains trembled and quaked, because he was angry.
- Psa 18:8** Smoke went up from his nostrils, and devouring fire from his mouth; glowing coals flamed forth from him.
- Psa 18:9** He bowed the heavens and came down; thick darkness was under his feet.
- Psa 18:10** He rode on a cherub and flew; he came swiftly on the wings of the wind.
- Psa 18:11** He made darkness his covering, his canopy around him, thick clouds dark with water.
- Psa 18:12** Out of the brightness before him hailstones and coals of fire broke through his clouds.
- Psa 18:13** The LORD also thundered in the heavens, and the Most High uttered his voice, hailstones and coals of fire.
- Psa 18:14** And he sent out his arrows and scattered them; he flashed forth lightnings and routed them.
- Psa 18:15** Then the channels of the sea were seen, and the foundations of the world were laid bare at your rebuke, O LORD, at the blast of the breath of your nostrils.
- Psa 18:16** He sent from on high, he took me; he drew me out of many waters.
- Psa 18:17** He rescued me from my strong enemy and from those who hated me, for they were too mighty for me.
- Psa 18:18** They confronted me in the day of my calamity, but the LORD was my support.
- Psa 18:19** He brought me out into a broad place; he rescued me, because he delighted in me.
- Psa 18:20** The LORD dealt with me according to my righteousness; according to the cleanness of my hands he rewarded me.
- Psa 18:21** For I have kept the ways of the LORD, and have not wickedly departed from my God.
- Psa 18:22** For all his rules were before me, and his statutes I did not put away from me.
- Psa 18:23** I was blameless before him, and I kept myself from my guilt.
- Psa 18:24** So the LORD has rewarded me according to my righteousness, according to the cleanness of my hands in his sight.
- Psa 18:25** With the merciful you show yourself merciful; with the blameless man you show yourself blameless;
- Psa 18:26** with the purified you show yourself pure; and with the crooked you make yourself seem tortuous.
- Psa 18:27** For you save a humble people, but the haughty eyes you bring down.
- Psa 18:28** For it is you who light my lamp; the LORD my God lightens my darkness.
- Psa 18:29** For by you I can run against a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall.
- Psa 18:30** This God--his way is perfect; the word of the LORD proves true; he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him.
- Psa 18:31** For who is God, but the LORD? And who is a rock, except our God?--
- Psa 18:32** the God who equipped me with strength and made my way blameless.

- Psa 18:33 He made my feet like the feet of a deer and set me secure on the heights.
- Psa 18:34 He trains my hands for war, so that my arms can bend a bow of bronze.
- Psa 18:35 You have given me the shield of your salvation, and your right hand supported me, and your gentleness made me great.
- Psa 18:36 You gave a wide place for my steps under me, and my feet did not slip.
- Psa 18:37 I pursued my enemies and overtook them, and did not turn back till they were consumed.
- Psa 18:38 I thrust them through, so that they were not able to rise; they fell under my feet.
- Psa 18:39 For you equipped me with strength for the battle; you made those who rise against me sink under me.
- Psa 18:40 You made my enemies turn their backs to me, and those who hated me I destroyed.
- Psa 18:41 They cried for help, but there was none to save; they cried to the LORD, but he did not answer them.
- Psa 18:42 I beat them fine as dust before the wind; I cast them out like the mire of the streets.
- Psa 18:43 You delivered me from strife with the people; you made me the head of the nations; people whom I had not known served me.
- Psa 18:44 As soon as they heard of me they obeyed me; foreigners came cringing to me.
- Psa 18:45 Foreigners lost heart and came trembling out of their fortresses.
- Psa 18:46 The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock, and exalted be the God of my salvation--
- Psa 18:47 the God who gave me vengeance and subdued peoples under me,
- Psa 18:48 who delivered me from my enemies; yes, you exalted me above those who rose against me; you rescued me from the man of violence.
- Psa 18:49 For this I will praise you, O LORD, among the nations, and sing to your name.
- Psa 18:50 Great salvation he brings to his king, and shows steadfast love to his anointed, to David and his offspring forever.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### *Who is this psalm for?*

### *What motivates the writing of this psalm? Why did David write it?*

### *How does David see God?*

### *Does our behavior matter?*

### *How does David see his ability and success?*

### *Why does David praise God among the nations and sing to God's name?*

# PSALM 19

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**Psa 19:1** To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David. The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

**Psa 19:2** Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.

**Psa 19:3** There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard.

**Psa 19:4** Their measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them he has set a tent for the sun,

**Psa 19:5** which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.

**Psa 19:6** Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

**Psa 19:7** The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;

**Psa 19:8** the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;

**Psa 19:9** the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.

**Psa 19:10** More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.

**Psa 19:11** Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

**Psa 19:12** Who can discern his errors? Declare me innocent from hidden faults.

**Psa 19:13** Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me! Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

**Psa 19:14** Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*If the entire psalm was a worship song which of our song categories would you put it in?*

*What is the point of verses 1-6?*

*What are verses 7-11 all about?*

*How does David see the law of the Lord?*

*What is the result of obedience to the law of the Lord?*

*What are the prayer requests of David?*

# PSALM 20

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**Psa 20:1** To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David. May the LORD answer you in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect you!

**Psa 20:2** May he send you help from the sanctuary and give you support from Zion!

**Psa 20:3** May he remember all your offerings and regard with favor your burnt sacrifices! Selah.

**Psa 20:4** May he grant you your heart's desire and fulfill all your plans!

**Psa 20:5** May we shout for joy over your salvation, and in the name of our God set up our banners! May the LORD fulfill all your petitions!

**Psa 20:6** Now I know that the LORD saves his anointed; he will answer him from his holy heaven with the saving might of his right hand.

**Psa 20:7** Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.

**Psa 20:8** They collapse and fall, but we rise and stand upright.

**Psa 20:9** O LORD, save the king! May he answer us when we call.

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What is the psalmist doing in the first five verses?*

*What do we call it?*

*How would you render verse 7 in contemporary language? Why is this verse so important today?*

*Where is David's confidence?*

# PSALM 21

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- Psa 21:1** To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David. O LORD, in your strength the king rejoices, and in your salvation how greatly he exults!
- Psa 21:2** You have given him his heart's desire and have not withheld the request of his lips. Selah.
- Psa 21:3** For you meet him with rich blessings; you set a crown of fine gold upon his head.
- Psa 21:4** He asked life of you; you gave it to him, length of days forever and ever.
- Psa 21:5** His glory is great through your salvation; splendor and majesty you bestow on him.
- Psa 21:6** For you make him most blessed forever; you make him glad with the joy of your presence.
- Psa 21:7** For the king trusts in the LORD, and through the steadfast love of the Most High he shall not be moved.
- Psa 21:8** Your hand will find out all your enemies; your right hand will find out those who hate you.
- Psa 21:9** You will make them as a blazing oven when you appear. The LORD will swallow them up in his wrath, and fire will consume them.
- Psa 21:10** You will destroy their descendants from the earth, and their offspring from among the children of man.
- Psa 21:11** Though they plan evil against you, though they devise mischief, they will not succeed.
- Psa 21:12** For you will put them to flight; you will aim at their faces with your bows.
- Psa 21:13** Be exalted, O LORD, in your strength! We will sing and praise your power.

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What is the common thread of verses 1-7?*

*How does the focus shift at verse 8?*

*What is David's expectation of the Lord in verses 8-12?*

*What, ultimately, is our song about?*

# PSALM 22

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- 1 To the choirmaster: according to The Doe of the Dawn. A Psalm of David. My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?
- 2 O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest.
- 3 Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.
- 4 In you our fathers trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.
- 5 To you they cried and were rescued; in you they trusted and were not put to shame.
- 6 But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by mankind and despised by the people.
- 7 All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads;
- 8 "He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him!"
- 9 Yet you are he who took me from the womb; you made me trust you at my mother's breasts.
- 10 On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God.
- 11 Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help.
- 12 Many bulls encompass me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me;
- 13 they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion.
- 14 I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast;
- 15 my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death.
- 16 For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet--
- 17 I can count all my bones-- they stare and gloat over me;
- 18 they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.
- 19 But you, O LORD, do not be far off! O you my help, come quickly to my aid!
- 20 Deliver my soul from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dog!
- 21 Save me from the mouth of the lion! You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen!
- 22 I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:
- 23 You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!
- 24 For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him.
- 25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear him.
- 26 The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD! May your hearts live forever!
- 27 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you.
- 28 For kingship belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.
- 29 All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep himself alive.
- 30 Posterity shall serve him; it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;
- 31 they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn, that he has done it.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### *Who is this psalm about?*

### *What are the key ideas?*

### *Expand on each key idea?*

### *How should this psalm affect us?*

## PSALM 23

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**Psa 23:1** A Psalm of David. The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

**Psa 23:2** He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.

**Psa 23:3** He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

**Psa 23:4** Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

**Psa 23:5** You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

**Psa 23:6** Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

### Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*How does verse 1 put life into perspective?*

*What does the Lord do in verses 2-3?*

*Why does David not fear evil in verses 4-5?*

*What kind of verse is 6?*

*Why is this psalm so popular?*

## PSALM 24

---

**Psa 24:1** A Psalm of David. The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein,

**Psa 24:2** for he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.

**Psa 24:3** Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in his holy place?

**Psa 24:4** He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.

**Psa 24:5** He will receive blessing from the LORD and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

**Psa 24:6** Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. Selah.

**Psa 24:7** Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

**Psa 24:8** Who is this King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!

**Psa 24:9** Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

**Psa 24:10** Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory! Selah.

### Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What is the main point David is trying to make in verses 1-2? What is he reminding us of?*

*What is required to stand before God?*

*What is the difference between clean hands and a pure heart?*

*Who is God looking for?*

*What are verses 7-10 all about?*

# PSALM 25

---

Of David.

- 1 To you, O Lord , I lift up my soul;
- 2 in you I trust, O my God. Do not let me be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 3 No one whose hope is in you will ever be put to shame, but they will be put to shame who are treacherous without excuse.
- 4 Show me your ways, O Lord , teach me your paths;
- 5 guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.
- 6 Remember, O Lord , your great mercy and love, for they are from of old.
- 7 Remember not the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways; according to your love remember me, for you are good, O Lord .
- 8 Good and upright is the Lord ; therefore he instructs sinners in his ways.
- 9 He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way.
- 10 All the ways of the Lord are loving and faithful for those who keep the demands of his covenant.
- 11 For the sake of your name, O Lord , forgive my iniquity, though it is great.
- 12 Who, then, is the man that fears the Lord ? He will instruct him in the way chosen for him.
- 13 He will spend his days in prosperity, and his descendants will inherit the land.
- 14 The Lord confides in those who fear him; he makes his covenant known to them.
- 15 My eyes are ever on the Lord , for only he will release my feet from the snare.

- 16 Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.
- 17 The troubles of my heart have multiplied; free me from my anguish.
- 18 Look upon my affliction and my distress and take away all my sins.
- 19 See how my enemies have increased and how fiercely they hate me!
- 20 Guard my life and rescue me; let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.
- 21 May integrity and uprightness protect me, because my hope is in you.
- 22 Redeem Israel, O God, from all their troubles!

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What is David confident of in verses 1-3?*

*What are David's requests of God in verses 4-7?*

*How does David see God in verses 8-10?*

*Why is fearing the Lord important?*

*How can you be a sinner and still have integrity and uprightness?*

*How does verse 22 contrast with the rest of the psalm? Why is it there?*

## PSALM 26

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**Psa 26:1** Of David. Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.

**Psa 26:2** Prove me, O LORD, and try me; test my heart and my mind.

**Psa 26:3** For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in your faithfulness.

**Psa 26:4** I do not sit with men of falsehood, nor do I consort with hypocrites.

**Psa 26:5** I hate the assembly of evildoers, and I will not sit with the wicked.

**Psa 26:6** I wash my hands in innocence and go around your altar, O LORD,

**Psa 26:7** proclaiming thanksgiving aloud, and telling all your wondrous deeds.

**Psa 26:8** O LORD, I love the habitation of your house and the place where your glory dwells.

**Psa 26:9** Do not sweep my soul away with sinners, nor my life with bloodthirsty men,

**Psa 26:10** in whose hands are evil devices, and whose right hands are full of bribes.

**Psa 26:11** But as for me, I shall walk in my integrity; redeem me, and be gracious to me.

**Psa 26:12** My foot stands on level ground; in the great assembly I will bless the LORD.

### Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What is David requesting of God in verses 1-2?*

*What is David doing in verses 3-8?*

*What is David's prayer request in verses 9-10? Why do you think he asks? What is his concern?*

*Does David believe worship of God is a private matter? Explain*

## PSALM 27

---

Of David.

- 1 The Lord is my light and my salvation- whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life- of whom shall I be afraid?
- 2 When evil men advance against me to devour my flesh, when my enemies and my foes attack me, they will stumble and fall.
- 3 Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then will I be confident.
- 4 One thing I ask of the Lord , this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.
- 5 For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle and set me high upon a rock.
- 6 Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me; at his tabernacle will I sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the Lord .
- 7 Hear my voice when I call, O Lord ; be merciful to me and answer me.
- 8 My heart says of you, "Seek his face!" Your face, Lord , I will seek.
- 9 Do not hide your face from me, do not turn your servant away in anger; you have been my helper. Do not reject me or forsake me, O God my Savior.

- 10 Though my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will receive me.
- 11 Teach me your way, O Lord ; lead me in a straight path because of my oppressors.
- 12 Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes, for false witnesses rise up against me, breathing out violence.
- 13 I am still confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.
- 14 Wait for the Lord ; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord .

### Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What is the key idea David expresses in verses 1-3?*

*What is the "one thing" that David seeks?*

*Why is verse 10 important?*

*Where does David look to learn about how to live life?*

*What is David's instruction to us in this psalm?*

# PSALM 28

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**Psa 28:1** Of David. To you, O LORD, I call; my rock, be not deaf to me, lest, if you be silent to me, I become like those who go down to the pit.

**Psa 28:2** Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy, when I cry to you for help, when I lift up my hands toward your most holy sanctuary.

**Psa 28:3** Do not drag me off with the wicked, with the workers of evil, who speak peace with their neighbors while evil is in their hearts.

**Psa 28:4** Give to them according to their work and according to the evil of their deeds; give to them according to the work of their hands; render them their due reward.

**Psa 28:5** Because they do not regard the works of the LORD or the work of his hands, he will tear them down and build them up no more.

**Psa 28:6** Blessed be the LORD! for he has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.

**Psa 28:7** The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.

**Psa 28:8** The LORD is the strength of his people; he is the saving refuge of his anointed.

**Psa 28:9** Oh, save your people and bless your heritage! Be their shepherd and carry them forever.

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What is the dominating theme of David's prayer requests in verses 1-2?*

*How does David describe the wicked workers of evil?*

*How does David want the Lord to reward them?*

*What does David believe about his prayers?*

*How does David see the Lord?*

*Is David just concerned about himself?*

# PSALM 29

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- Psa 29:1** A Psalm of David. Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- Psa 29:2** Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.
- Psa 29:3** The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many waters.
- Psa 29:4** The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.
- Psa 29:5** The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.
- Psa 29:6** He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.
- Psa 29:7** The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.
- Psa 29:8** The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- Psa 29:9** The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth and strips the forests bare, and in his temple all cry, "Glory!"
- Psa 29:10** The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.
- Psa 29:11** May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace!

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*If we put this psalm to music what category would we put it in? Explain.*

*What is the dominate theme of this psalm? Hint: look at repeated phrases.*

*What does this psalm teach us about the Lord?*

*What are the prayer requests?*

# PSALM 30

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**Psa 30:1** A Psalm of David. A song at the dedication of the temple. I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up and have not let my foes rejoice over me.

**Psa 30:2** O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.

**Psa 30:3** O LORD, you have brought up my soul from Sheol; you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.

**Psa 30:4** Sing praises to the LORD, O you his saints, and give thanks to his holy name.

**Psa 30:5** For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

**Psa 30:6** As for me, I said in my prosperity, "I shall never be moved."

**Psa 30:7** By your favor, O LORD, you made my mountain stand strong; you hid your face; I was dismayed.

**Psa 30:8** To you, O LORD, I cry, and to the Lord I plead for mercy:

**Psa 30:9** "What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your faithfulness?"

**Psa 30:10** Hear, O LORD, and be merciful to me! O LORD, be my helper!"

**Psa 30:11** You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; you have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness,

**Psa 30:12** that my glory may sing your praise and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever!

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### *Why was this song written and why is it significant?*

### *What is David thankful for in the first 3 verses?*

### *What are some reasons in verse 5 that David tells us to sing praises and give thanks to the Lord?*

### *What caused David dismay? What does this cause reveal about David's priorities?*

### *Why does David plead for mercy?*

### *What does David credit the Lord for?*

# PSALM 31

- 1 To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David. In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me!
- 2 Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily! Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me!
- 3 For you are my rock and my fortress; and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me;
- 4 you take me out of the net they have hidden for me, for you are my refuge.
- 5 Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.
- 6 I hate those who pay regard to worthless idols, but I trust in the LORD.
- 7 I will rejoice and be glad in your steadfast love, because you have seen my affliction; you have known the distress of my soul,
- 8 and you have not delivered me into the hand of the enemy; you have set my feet in a broad place.
- 9 Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am in distress; my eye is wasted from grief; my soul and my body also.
- 10 For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing; my strength fails because of my iniquity, and my bones waste away.
- 11 Because of all my adversaries I have become a reproach, especially to my neighbors, and an object of dread to my acquaintances; those who see me in the street flee from me.
- 12 I have been forgotten like one who is dead; I have become like a broken vessel.
- 13 For I hear the whispering of many-- terror on every side!-- as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life.
- 14 But I trust in you, O LORD; I say, "You are my God."
- 15 My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my persecutors!
- 16 Make your face shine on your servant; save me in your steadfast love!
- 17 O LORD, let me not be put to shame, for I call upon you; let the wicked be put to shame; let them go silently to Sheol.
- 18 Let the lying lips be mute, which speak insolently against the righteous in pride and contempt.
- 19 Oh, how abundant is your goodness, which you have stored up for those who fear you and worked for those who take refuge in you, in the sight of the children of mankind!
- 20 In the cover of your presence you hide them from the plots of men; you store them in your shelter from the strife of tongues.
- 21 Blessed be the LORD, for he has wondrously shown his steadfast love to me when I was in a besieged city.
- 22 I had said in my alarm, "I am cut off from your sight." But you heard the voice of my pleas for mercy when I cried to you for help.
- 23 Love the LORD, all you his saints! The LORD preserves the faithful but abundantly repays the one who acts in pride.
- 24 Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the LORD!

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What are David's prayer requests (verses 1-2)?*

*Who is the Lord to David (verses 3-6)?*

*Does David believe God hears, understands, and acts? (verses 7-8, 19-22)?*

*What is going on in David's life? How is he feeling? (verses 9-18)*

*What are David's instructions to believers (verses 23-24)?*

## PSALM 32

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**Psa 32:1** A Maskil of David. Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

**Psa 32:2** Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

**Psa 32:3** For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

**Psa 32:4** For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Selah.

**Psa 32:5** I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah.

**Psa 32:6** Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found; surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.

**Psa 32:7** You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance. Selah.

**Psa 32:8** I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

**Psa 32:9** Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding, which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you.

**Psa 32:10** Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.

**Psa 32:11** Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

### Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What is David telling us about sin (verses 1-5)?*

*How are verses 6 and 7 related?*

*What happens in verse 8?*

*What is wrong with being like a horse or a mule?*

*What is the promise for the one who trusts in the Lord?*

*What is the final instruction to the upright in heart?*

## PSALM 33

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**Psa 33:1** Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright.

**Psa 33:2** Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings!

**Psa 33:3** Sing to him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.

**Psa 33:4** For the word of the LORD is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness.

**Psa 33:5** He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.

**Psa 33:6** By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host.

**Psa 33:7** He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap; he puts the deeps in storehouses.

**Psa 33:8** Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him!

**Psa 33:9** For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.

**Psa 33:10** The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples.

**Psa 33:11** The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations.

**Psa 33:12** Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!

**Psa 33:13** The LORD looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man;

**Psa 33:14** from where he sits enthroned he looks out on all the inhabitants of the earth,

**Psa 33:15** he who fashions the hearts of them all and observes all their deeds.

**Psa 33:16** The king is not saved by his great army; a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.

**Psa 33:17** The war horse is a false hope for salvation, and by its great might it cannot rescue.

**Psa 33:18** Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love,

**Psa 33:19** that he may deliver their soul from death and keep them alive in famine.

**Psa 33:20** Our soul waits for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.

**Psa 33:21** For our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name.

**Psa 33:22** Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

### Questions to reflect on

#### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

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# PSALM 34

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**Psa 34:1** Of David, when he changed his behavior before Abimelech, so that he drove him out, and he went away. I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

**Psa 34:2** My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.

**Psa 34:3** Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together!

**Psa 34:4** I sought the LORD, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.

**Psa 34:5** Those who look to him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed.

**Psa 34:6** This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him and saved him out of all his troubles.

**Psa 34:7** The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.

**Psa 34:8** Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

**Psa 34:9** Oh, fear the LORD, you his saints, for those who fear him have no lack!

**Psa 34:10** The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.

**Psa 34:11** Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

**Psa 34:12** What man is there who desires life and loves many days, that he may see good?

**Psa 34:13** Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit.

**Psa 34:14** Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

**Psa 34:15** The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous and his ears toward their cry.

**Psa 34:16** The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, to cut off the memory of them from the earth.

**Psa 34:17** When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.

**Psa 34:18** The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

**Psa 34:19** Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

**Psa 34:20** He keeps all his bones; not one of them is broken.

**Psa 34:21** Affliction will slay the wicked, and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.

**Psa 34:22** The LORD redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

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# PSALM 35

- 1 Of David. Contend, O LORD, with those who contend with me; fight against those who fight against me!
- 2 Take hold of shield and buckler and rise for my help!
- 3 Draw the spear and javelin against my pursuers! Say to my soul, "I am your salvation!"
- 4 Let them be put to shame and dishonor who seek after my life! Let them be turned back and disappointed who devise evil against me!
- 5 Let them be like chaff before the wind, with the angel of the LORD driving them away!
- 6 Let their way be dark and slippery, with the angel of the LORD pursuing them!
- 7 For without cause they hid their net for me; without cause they dug a pit for my life.
- 8 Let destruction come upon him when he does not know it! And let the net that he hid ensnare him; let him fall into it--to his destruction!
- 9 Then my soul will rejoice in the LORD, exulting in his salvation.
- 10 All my bones shall say, "O LORD, who is like you, delivering the poor from him who is too strong for him, the poor and needy from him who robs him?"
- 11 Malicious witnesses rise up; they ask me of things that I do not know.
- 12 They repay me evil for good; my soul is bereft.
- 13 But I, when they were sick-- I wore sackcloth; I afflicted myself with fasting; I prayed with head bowed on my chest.
- 14 I went about as though I grieved for my friend or my brother; as one who laments his mother, I bowed down in mourning.
- 15 But at my stumbling they rejoiced and gathered; they gathered together against me; wretches whom I did not know tore at me without ceasing;
- 16 like profane mockers at a feast, they gnash at me with their teeth.
- 17 How long, O Lord, will you look on? Rescue me from their destruction, my precious life from the lions!
- 18 I will thank you in the great congregation; in the mighty throng I will praise you.
- 19 Let not those rejoice over me who are wrongfully my foes, and let not those wink the eye who hate me without cause.
- 20 For they do not speak peace, but against those who are quiet in the land they devise words of deceit.
- 21 They open wide their mouths against me; they say, "Aha, Aha! our eyes have seen it!"
- 22 You have seen, O LORD; be not silent! O Lord, be not far from me!
- 23 Awake and rouse yourself for my vindication, for my cause, my God and my Lord!
- 24 Vindicate me, O LORD, my God, according to your righteousness, and let them not rejoice over me!
- 25 Let them not say in their hearts, "Aha, our heart's desire!" Let them not say, "We have swallowed him up."
- 26 Let them be put to shame and disappointed altogether who rejoice at my calamity! Let them be clothed with shame and dishonor who magnify themselves against me!
- 27 Let those who delight in my righteousness shout for joy and be glad and say evermore, "Great is the LORD, who delights in the welfare of his servant!"
- 28 Then my tongue shall tell of your righteousness and of your praise all the day long.

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What do you think is going on in David's life?*

*How does David see himself?*

*What does David want God to do?*

*What is David committed to doing?*

# PSALM 36

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**Psa 36:1** To the choirmaster. Of David, the servant of the LORD.

Transgression speaks to the wicked deep in his heart; there is no fear of God before his eyes.

**Psa 36:2** For he flatters himself in his own eyes that his iniquity cannot be found out and hated.

**Psa 36:3** The words of his mouth are trouble and deceit; he has ceased to act wisely and do good.

**Psa 36:4** He plots trouble while on his bed; he sets himself in a way that is not good; he does not reject evil.

**Psa 36:5** Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.

**Psa 36:6** Your righteousness is like the mountains of God; your judgments are like the great deep; man and beast you save, O LORD.

**Psa 36:7** How precious is your steadfast love, O God! The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

**Psa 36:8** They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

**Psa 36:9** For with you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light.

**Psa 36:10** Oh, continue your steadfast love to those who know you, and your righteousness to the upright of heart!

**Psa 36:11** Let not the foot of arrogance come upon me, nor the hand of the wicked drive me away.

**Psa 36:12** There the evildoers lie fallen; they are thrust down, unable to rise.

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What stands out to you in the description of the wicked in verses 1-4?*

*What is the dominant (repeated) characteristic of God in this psalm?*

*What picture of God is painted by David?*

*What are the prayer requests by David?*

*Are they answered? Explain*

# PSALM 37

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1 Of David. Fret not yourself because of evildoers; be not envious of wrongdoers! 2 For they will soon fade like the grass and wither like the green herb.

3 Trust in the LORD, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. 4 Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

5 Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act. 6 He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday.

7 Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices!

8 Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath! Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil. 9 For the evildoers shall be cut off, but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land. 10 In just a little while, the wicked will be no more; though you look carefully at his place, he will not be there. 11 But the meek shall inherit the land and delight themselves in abundant peace.

12 The wicked plots against the righteous and gnashes his teeth at him, 13 but the Lord laughs at the wicked, for he sees that his day is coming.

14 The wicked draw the sword and bend their bows to bring down the poor and needy, to slay those whose way is upright; 15 their sword shall enter their own heart, and their bows shall be broken.

16 Better is the little that the righteous has than the abundance of many wicked. 17 For the arms of the wicked shall be broken, but the LORD upholds the righteous.

18 The LORD knows the days of the blameless, and their heritage will remain forever; 19 they are not put to shame in evil times; in the days of famine they have abundance.

20 But the wicked will perish; the enemies of the LORD are like the glory of the pastures; they vanish--like smoke they vanish away.

21 The wicked borrows but does not pay back, but the righteous is generous and gives; 22 for those blessed by the LORD shall inherit the land, but those cursed by him shall be cut off.

23 The steps of a man are established by the LORD, when he delights in his way; 24 though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the LORD upholds his hand.

25 I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread. 26 He is ever lending generously, and his children become a blessing.

27 Turn away from evil and do good; so shall you dwell forever. 28 For the LORD loves justice; he will not forsake his saints. They are preserved forever, but the children of the wicked shall be cut off. 29 The righteous shall inherit the land and dwell upon it forever.

30 The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom, and his tongue speaks justice. 31 The law of his God is in his heart; his steps do not slip.

32 The wicked watches for the righteous and seeks to put him to death. 33 The LORD will not abandon him to his power or let him be condemned when he is brought to trial.

34 Wait for the LORD and keep his way, and he will exalt you to inherit the land; you will look on when the wicked are cut off.

35 I have seen a wicked, ruthless man, spreading himself like a green laurel tree. 36 But he passed away, and behold, he was no more; though I sought him, he could not be found.

37 Mark the blameless and behold the upright, for there is a future for the man of peace. 38 But transgressors shall be altogether destroyed; the future of the wicked shall be cut off.

39 The salvation of the righteous is from the LORD; he is their stronghold in the time of trouble. 40 The LORD helps them and delivers them; he delivers them from the wicked and saves them, because they take refuge in him.

## Questions to reflect on

### **What kind of psalm is this?**

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### **What are some other names for wrongdoers and what is their destiny?**

### **What are we urged to do?**

### **What does it mean to be righteous and what is the promise to those who are?**

# PSALM 38

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**Psa 38:1** A Psalm of David, for the memorial offering. O LORD, rebuke me not in your anger, nor discipline me in your wrath!

**Psa 38:2** For your arrows have sunk into me, and your hand has come down on me.

**Psa 38:3** There is no soundness in my flesh because of your indignation; there is no health in my bones because of my sin.

**Psa 38:4** For my iniquities have gone over my head; like a heavy burden, they are too heavy for me.

**Psa 38:5** My wounds stink and fester because of my foolishness,

**Psa 38:6** I am utterly bowed down and prostrate; all the day I go about mourning.

**Psa 38:7** For my sides are filled with burning, and there is no soundness in my flesh.

**Psa 38:8** I am feeble and crushed; I groan because of the tumult of my heart.

**Psa 38:9** O Lord, all my longing is before you; my sighing is not hidden from you.

**Psa 38:10** My heart throbs; my strength fails me, and the light of my eyes--it also has gone from me.

**Psa 38:11** My friends and companions stand aloof from my plague, and my nearest kin stand far off.

**Psa 38:12** Those who seek my life lay their snares; those who seek my hurt speak of ruin and meditate treachery all day long.

**Psa 38:13** But I am like a deaf man; I do not hear, like a mute man who does not open his mouth.

**Psa 38:14** I have become like a man who does not hear, and in whose mouth are no rebukes.

**Psa 38:15** But for you, O LORD, do I wait; it is you, O Lord my God, who will answer.

**Psa 38:16** For I said, "Only let them not rejoice over me, who boast against me when my foot slips!"

**Psa 38:17** For I am ready to fall, and my pain is ever before me.

**Psa 38:18** I confess my iniquity; I am sorry for my sin.

**Psa 38:19** But my foes are vigorous, they are mighty, and many are those who hate me wrongfully.

**Psa 38:20** Those who render me evil for good accuse me because I follow after good.

**Psa 38:21** Do not forsake me, O LORD! O my God, be not far from me!

**Psa 38:22** Make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation!

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### *What do you think initiates this psalm?*

### *How does sin affect us?*

### *What else is David concerned about in addition to his sin?*

### *What are David's prayer requests?*

# PSALM 39

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**Psa 39:1** To the choirmaster: to Jeduthun. A Psalm of David. I said, "I will guard my ways, that I may not sin with my tongue; I will guard my mouth with a muzzle, so long as the wicked are in my presence."

**Psa 39:2** I was mute and silent; I held my peace to no avail, and my distress grew worse.

**Psa 39:3** My heart became hot within me. As I mused, the fire burned; then I spoke with my tongue:

**Psa 39:4** "O LORD, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days; let me know how fleeting I am!"

**Psa 39:5** Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths, and my lifetime is as nothing before you. Surely all mankind stands as a mere breath! Selah.

**Psa 39:6** Surely a man goes about as a shadow! Surely for nothing they are in turmoil; man heaps up wealth and does not know who will gather!

**Psa 39:7** "And now, O Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in you.

**Psa 39:8** Deliver me from all my transgressions. Do not make me the scorn of the fool!

**Psa 39:9** I am mute; I do not open my mouth, for it is you who have done it.

**Psa 39:10** Remove your stroke from me; I am spent by the hostility of your hand.

**Psa 39:11** When you discipline a man with rebukes for sin, you consume like a moth what is dear to him; surely all mankind is a mere breath! Selah.

**Psa 39:12** "Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear to my cry; hold not your peace at my tears! For I am a sojourner with you, a guest, like all my fathers.

**Psa 39:13** Look away from me, that I may smile again, before I depart and am no more!"

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### *What season of David's life do you think this was written in? Explain*

### *How does David see life?*

### *How do we apply this psalm to our lives?*

# PSALM 40

**Psa 40:1** To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David. I waited patiently for the LORD; he inclined to me and heard my cry.

**Psa 40:2** He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.

**Psa 40:3** He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the LORD.

**Psa 40:4** Blessed is the man who makes the LORD his trust, who does not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after a lie!

**Psa 40:5** You have multiplied, O LORD my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you! I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than can be told.

**Psa 40:6** Sacrifice and offering you have not desired, but you have given me an open ear. Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required.

**Psa 40:7** Then I said, "Behold, I have come; in the scroll of the book it is written of me:

**Psa 40:8** I desire to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart."

**Psa 40:9** I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; behold, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O LORD.

**Psa 40:10** I have not hidden your deliverance within my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation; I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness from the great congregation.

**Psa 40:11** As for you, O LORD, you will not restrain your mercy from me; your steadfast love and your faithfulness will ever preserve me!

**Psa 40:12** For evils have encompassed me beyond number; my iniquities have overtaken me, and I cannot see; they are more than the hairs of my head; my heart fails me.

**Psa 40:13** Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me! O LORD, make haste to help me!

**Psa 40:14** Let those be put to shame and disappointed altogether who seek to snatch away my life; let those be turned back and brought to dishonor who desire my hurt!

**Psa 40:15** Let those be appalled because of their shame who say to me, "Aha, Aha!"

**Psa 40:16** But may all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; may those who love your salvation say continually, "Great is the LORD!"

**Psa 40:17** As for me, I am poor and needy, but the Lord takes thought for me. You are my help and my deliverer; do not delay, O my God!

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What does David do in the beginning of the psalm and what are the results? (v1-3)*

*What is David's view of God? (v5)*

*What doesn't God desire? (v6)*

*What does God desire? (v7-10)*

*How does David see himself? (v11-12,17)*

*What does David want for his enemies? (v13-15)*

*What is David encouraging us to do? (v4,16)*

# PSALM 41

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**Psa 41:1** To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David. Blessed is the one who considers the poor! In the day of trouble the LORD delivers him;

**Psa 41:2** the LORD protects him and keeps him alive; he is called blessed in the land; you do not give him up to the will of his enemies.

**Psa 41:3** The LORD sustains him on his sickbed; in his illness you restore him to full health.

**Psa 41:4** As for me, I said, "O LORD, be gracious to me; heal me, for I have sinned against you!"

**Psa 41:5** My enemies say of me in malice, "When will he die and his name perish?"

**Psa 41:6** And when one comes to see me, he utters empty words, while his heart gathers iniquity; when he goes out, he tells it abroad.

**Psa 41:7** All who hate me whisper together about me; they imagine the worst for me.

**Psa 41:8** They say, "A deadly thing is poured out on him; he will not rise again from where he lies."

**Psa 41:9** Even my close friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me.

**Psa 41:10** But you, O LORD, be gracious to me, and raise me up, that I may repay them!

**Psa 41:11** By this I know that you delight in me: my enemy will not shout in triumph over me.

**Psa 41:12** But you have upheld me because of my integrity, and set me in your presence forever.

**Psa 41:13** Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting! Amen and Amen.

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*Who is blessed? (v1-3)*

*Why is verse 4 important?*

*What is the theme of verses 5-9?*

*What kind of verse is verse 9?  
Who referred back to it?*

*What is David's view of death?  
(v12)*

**Questions to reflect on**

## PSALM 42

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**Psa 42:1** To the choirmaster. A Maskil of the Sons of Korah. As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God.

**Psa 42:2** My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?

**Psa 42:3** My tears have been my food day and night, while they say to me continually, "Where is your God?"

**Psa 42:4** These things I remember, as I pour out my soul: how I would go with the throng and lead them in procession to the house of God with glad shouts and songs of praise, a multitude keeping festival.

**Psa 42:5** Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation

**Psa 42:6** and my God. My soul is cast down within me; therefore I remember you from the land of Jordan and of Hermon, from Mount Mizar.

**Psa 42:7** Deep calls to deep at the roar of your waterfalls; all your breakers and your waves have gone over me.

**Psa 42:8** By day the LORD commands his steadfast love, and at night his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.

**Psa 42:9** I say to God, my rock: "Why have you forgotten me? Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?"

**Psa 42:10** As with a deadly wound in my bones, my adversaries taunt me, while they say to me continually, "Where is your God?"

**Psa 42:11** Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.

### Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*Who is Korah? What is his story? Why does that make this psalm significant?*

*What stands out most vividly to you in this psalm?*

*What is the psalmist doing in verses 5 and 11 and what structure to they suggest for this psalm?*

*What do you think verse 7 means?*

*How does the psalmist view songs? (v8)*

*What is the psalmist trying to teach us?*

## PSALM 43

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**Psa 43:1** Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people, from the deceitful and unjust man deliver me!

**Psa 43:2** For you are the God in whom I take refuge; why have you rejected me? Why do I go about mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?

**Psa 43:3** Send out your light and your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling!

**Psa 43:4** Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy, and I will praise you with the lyre, O God, my God.

**Psa 43:5** Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.

### Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What are the prayer requests of the psalmist?*

*What are the psalmist's questions? What do they reveal about what is going on the psalmist's life?*

*What does the psalmist request on the way to God's altar? Should we settle for anything less? Explain*

*How does the Psalmist see God?*

*Is verse 5 familiar? If so, where have we seen it before?*

# PSALM 44

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- 1 To the choirmaster. A Maskil of the Sons of Korah. O God, we have heard with our ears, our fathers have told us, what deeds you performed in their days, in the days of old:
- 2 you with your own hand drove out the nations, but them you planted; you afflicted the peoples, but them you set free;
- 3 for not by their own sword did they win the land, nor did their own arm save them, but your right hand and your arm, and the light of your face, for you delighted in them.
- 4 You are my King, O God; ordain salvation for Jacob!
- 5 Through you we push down our foes; through your name we tread down those who rise up against us.
- 6 For not in my bow do I trust, nor can my sword save me.
- 7 But you have saved us from our foes and have put to shame those who hate us.
- 8 In God we have boasted continually, and we will give thanks to your name forever. Selah.
- 9 But you have rejected us and disgraced us and have not gone out with our armies.
- 10 You have made us turn back from the foe, and those who hate us have gotten spoil.
- 11 You have made us like sheep for slaughter and have scattered us among the nations.
- 12 You have sold your people for a trifle, demanding no high price for them.
- 13 You have made us the taunt of our neighbors, the derision and scorn of those around us.
- 14 You have made us a byword among the nations, a laughingstock among the peoples.
- 15 All day long my disgrace is before me, and shame has covered my face
- 16 at the sound of the taunter and reviler, at the sight of the enemy and the avenger.
- 17 All this has come upon us, though we have not forgotten you, and we have not been false to your covenant.
- 18 Our heart has not turned back, nor have our steps departed from your way;
- 19 yet you have broken us in the place of jackals and covered us with the shadow of death.
- 20 If we had forgotten the name of our God or spread out our hands to a foreign god,
- 21 would not God discover this? For he knows the secrets of the heart.
- 22 Yet for your sake we are killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.
- 23 Awake! Why are you sleeping, O Lord? Rouse yourself! Do not reject us forever!
- 24 Why do you hide your face? Why do you forget our affliction and oppression?
- 25 For our soul is bowed down to the dust; our belly clings to the ground.
- 26 Rise up; come to our help! Redeem us for the sake of your steadfast love!

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### *What is the theme of verses 1-3?*

### *How does the theme change in verses 4-8?*

### *What is the complaint of the psalmist in verses 9-16?*

### *Does the psalmist understand why all this is happening (v17-22)?*

### *What is the psalmist's request (v23-26)?*

# PSALM 45

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**Psa 45:1** To the choirmaster: according to Lilies. A Maskil of the Sons of Korah; a love song. My heart overflows with a pleasing theme; I address my verses to the king; my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.

**Psa 45:2** You are the most handsome of the sons of men; grace is poured upon your lips; therefore God has blessed you forever.

**Psa 45:3** Gird your sword on your thigh, O mighty one, in your splendor and majesty!

**Psa 45:4** In your majesty ride out victoriously for the cause of truth and meekness and righteousness; let your right hand teach you awesome deeds!

**Psa 45:5** Your arrows are sharp in the heart of the king's enemies; the peoples fall under you.

**Psa 45:6** Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness;

**Psa 45:7** you have loved righteousness and hated wickedness. Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;

**Psa 45:8** your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia. From ivory palaces stringed instruments make you glad;

**Psa 45:9** daughters of kings are among your ladies of honor; at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

**Psa 45:10** Hear, O daughter, and consider, and incline your ear: forget your people and your father's house,

**Psa 45:11** and the king will desire your beauty. Since he is your lord, bow to him.

**Psa 45:12** The people of Tyre will seek your favor with gifts, the richest of the people.

**Psa 45:13** All glorious is the princess in her chamber, with robes interwoven with gold.

**Psa 45:14** In many-colored robes she is led to the king, with her virgin companions following behind her.

**Psa 45:15** With joy and gladness they are led along as they enter the palace of the king.

**Psa 45:16** In place of your fathers shall be your sons; you will make them princes in all the earth.

**Psa 45:17** I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations; therefore nations will praise you forever and ever.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### *What is the common interpretation of this psalm?*

*Identify the highpoints of the psalm.*

# PSALM 46

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- Psa 46:1** To the choirmaster. Of the Sons of Korah. According to Alamo. A Song. God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
- Psa 46:2** Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,
- Psa 46:3** though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling. Selah.
- Psa 46:4** There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.
- Psa 46:5** God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.
- Psa 46:6** The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.
- Psa 46:7** The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Selah.
- Psa 46:8** Come, behold the works of the LORD, how he has brought desolations on the earth.
- Psa 46:9** He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.
- Psa 46:10** "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"
- Psa 46:11** The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Selah.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### *Do you see any significant structure to this psalm?*

### *How does the psalmist see God in verse 1?*

### *What kind of things doesn't the psalmist fear in verses 2 and 3?*

### *What is the river symbolic of and why was it significant in ancient times?*

### *How powerful is the Lord (v6-9)?*

### *How does the 1<sup>st</sup> sentence of verse 10 speak to you?*

# PSALM 47

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**Psa 47:1** To the choirmaster. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah. Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

**Psa 47:2** For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared, a great king over all the earth.

**Psa 47:3** He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet.

**Psa 47:4** He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves. Selah.

**Psa 47:5** God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

**Psa 47:6** Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

**Psa 47:7** For God is the King of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm!

**Psa 47:8** God reigns over the nations; God sits on his holy throne.

**Psa 47:9** The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham. For the shields of the earth belong to God; he is highly exalted!

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What is the psalmist urging the people to do in verses 1, 6, and 7?*

*What is the psalmist's view of God in verses 2, 3, 7, and 8?*

*Why do we praise God*

# PSALM 48

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**Psa 48:1** A Song. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah. Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised in the city of our God! His holy mountain,  
**Psa 48:2** beautiful in elevation, is the joy of all the earth, Mount Zion, in the far north, the city of the great King.  
**Psa 48:3** Within her citadels God has made himself known as a fortress.  
**Psa 48:4** For behold, the kings assembled; they came on together.  
**Psa 48:5** As soon as they saw it, they were astounded; they were in panic; they took to flight.  
**Psa 48:6** Trembling took hold of them there, anguish as of a woman in labor.  
**Psa 48:7** By the east wind you shattered the ships of Tarshish.  
**Psa 48:8** As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the LORD of hosts, in the city of our God, which God will establish forever. Selah.  
**Psa 48:9** We have thought on your steadfast love, O God, in the midst of your temple.  
**Psa 48:10** As your name, O God, so your praise reaches to the ends of the earth. Your right hand is filled with righteousness.  
**Psa 48:11** Let Mount Zion be glad! Let the daughters of Judah rejoice because of your judgments!  
**Psa 48:12** Walk about Zion, go around her, number her towers,  
**Psa 48:13** consider well her ramparts, go through her citadels, that you may tell the next generation  
**Psa 48:14** that this is God, our God forever and ever. He will guide us forever.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### *Verses 1-3*

*What should be the focus of our praise?*

*What is the common name of the location we are talking about?*

*What makes this location the joy of all the earth?*

*Why do the kings react the way they do? (Verses 4-7)*

*Why the confidence that God will establish the city forever? (Verses 8)*

*What is the key activity and what is the result? (Verses 9-11)*

*What is the assignment and why is it important? (Verses 12-14)*

# PSALM 49

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**Psa 49:1** To the choirmaster. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah. Hear this, all peoples! Give ear, all inhabitants of the world,  
**Psa 49:2** both low and high, rich and poor together!  
**Psa 49:3** My mouth shall speak wisdom; the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.  
**Psa 49:4** I will incline my ear to a proverb; I will solve my riddle to the music of the lyre.  
**Psa 49:5** Why should I fear in times of trouble, when the iniquity of those who cheat me surrounds me,  
**Psa 49:6** those who trust in their wealth and boast of the abundance of their riches?  
**Psa 49:7** Truly no man can ransom another, or give to God the price of his life,  
**Psa 49:8** for the ransom of their life is costly and can never suffice,  
**Psa 49:9** that he should live on forever and never see the pit.  
**Psa 49:10** For he sees that even the wise die; the fool and the stupid alike must perish and leave their wealth to others.  
**Psa 49:11** Their graves are their homes forever, their dwelling places to all generations, though they called lands by their own names.  
**Psa 49:12** Man in his pomp will not remain; he is like the beasts that perish.  
**Psa 49:13** This is the path of those who have foolish confidence; yet after them people approve of their boasts. Selah.  
**Psa 49:14** Like sheep they are appointed for Sheol; Death shall be their shepherd, and the upright shall rule over them in the morning. Their form shall be consumed in Sheol, with no place to dwell.

**Psa 49:15** But God will ransom my soul from the power of Sheol, for he will receive me. Selah.  
**Psa 49:16** Be not afraid when a man becomes rich, when the glory of his house increases.  
**Psa 49:17** For when he dies he will carry nothing away; his glory will not go down after him.  
**Psa 49:18** For though, while he lives, he counts himself blessed, --and though you get praise when you do well for yourself--  
**Psa 49:19** his soul will go to the generation of his fathers, who will never again see light.  
**Psa 49:20** Man in his pomp yet without understanding is like the beasts that perish.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*Who is the intended audience? (v1-2)*

*What is the riddle? (v3-6)*

*Reduce verses 7-14 to a statement?*

*What does the psalmist believe? (v15)*

*What wisdom is the psalmist passing on in verses 16-19?*

*What is "understanding" in verse 20?*

# PSALM 50

**Psa 50:1** A Psalm of Asaph. The Mighty One, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

Psa 50:2 Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

Psa 50:3 Our God comes; he does not keep silence; before him is a devouring fire, around him a mighty tempest.

Psa 50:4 He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that he may judge his people:

Psa 50:5 "Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!"

Psa 50:6 The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge! Selah.

Psa 50:7 "Hear, O my people, and I will speak; O Israel, I will testify against you. I am God, your God.

Psa 50:8 Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you; your burnt offerings are continually before me.

Psa 50:9 I will not accept a bull from your house or goats from your folds.

Psa 50:10 For every beast of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills.

Psa 50:11 I know all the birds of the hills, and all that moves in the field is mine.

Psa 50:12 "If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the world and its fullness are mine.

Psa 50:13 Do I eat the flesh of bulls or drink the blood of goats?

Psa 50:14 Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows to the Most High,

Psa 50:15 and call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me."

Psa 50:16 But to the wicked God says: "What right have you to recite my statutes or take my covenant on your lips?

Psa 50:17 For you hate discipline, and you cast my words behind you.

Psa 50:18 If you see a thief, you are pleased with him, and you keep company with adulterers.

Psa 50:19 "You give your mouth free rein for evil, and your tongue frames deceit.

Psa 50:20 You sit and speak against your brother; you slander your own mother's son.

Psa 50:21 These things you have done, and I have been silent; you thought that I was one like yourself. But now I rebuke you and lay the charge before you.

Psa 50:22 "Mark this, then, you who forget God, lest I tear you apart, and there be none to deliver!

Psa 50:23 The one who offers thanksgiving as his sacrifice glorifies me; to one who orders his way rightly I will show the salvation of God!"

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### *What is the repeated idea in verses 1-7?*

*Does the point of verse 8 still apply a new covenant age? Explain.*

### *What is God reminding us of in verses 9-13?*

*How are the wicked characterized in verses 16-22?*

*What is God look for (verses 14-15, 23)?*

# PSALM 51

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**Psa 51:1** To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David, when Nathan the prophet went to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba. Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

**Psa 51:2** Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

**Psa 51:3** For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

**Psa 51:4** Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.

**Psa 51:5** Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.

**Psa 51:6** Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

**Psa 51:7** Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

**Psa 51:8** Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice.

**Psa 51:9** Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

**Psa 51:10** Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

**Psa 51:11** Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

**Psa 51:12** Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

**Psa 51:13** Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

**Psa 51:14** Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of my

salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.

**Psa 51:15** O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

**Psa 51:16** For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.

**Psa 51:17** The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

**Psa 51:18** Do good to Zion in your good pleasure; build up the walls of Jerusalem;

**Psa 51:19** then will you delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on your altar.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### *What personal experiences led David to write this psalm?*

### *What are David's requests of God?*

### *How does David see God?*

### *How does David see himself?*

### *What is God looking for from transgressors?*

# PSALM 52

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**Psa 52:1** To the choirmaster. A Maskil of David, when Doeg, the Edomite, came and told Saul, "David has come to the house of Ahimelech." Why do you boast of evil, O mighty man? The steadfast love of God endures all the day.

**Psa 52:2** Your tongue plots destruction, like a sharp razor, you worker of deceit.

**Psa 52:3** You love evil more than good, and lying more than speaking what is right. Selah.

**Psa 52:4** You love all words that devour, O deceitful tongue.

**Psa 52:5** But God will break you down forever; he will snatch and tear you from your tent; he will uproot you from the land of the living. Selah.

**Psa 52:6** The righteous shall see and fear, and shall laugh at him, saying,

**Psa 52:7** "See the man who would not make God his refuge, but trusted in the abundance of his riches and sought refuge in his own destruction!"

**Psa 52:8** But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God. I trust in the steadfast love of God forever and ever.

**Psa 52:9** I will thank you forever, because you have done it. I will wait for your name, for it is good, in the presence of the godly.

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What event inspired this psalm(v1)?*

*How does David characterize the behavior of Doeg(v1-4)?*

*How does David describe the end result of such behavior(v5-7)?*

*Why would this psalm be incomplete without verses 8-9?*

*What do they add(v8-9)?*

# PSALM 53

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**Psa 53:1** To the choirmaster: according to Mahalath. A Maskil of David. The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, doing abominable iniquity; there is none who does good.

**Psa 53:2** God looks down from heaven on the children of man to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God.

**Psa 53:3** They have all fallen away; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one.

**Psa 53:4** Have those who work evil no knowledge, who eat up my people as they eat bread, and do not call upon God?

**Psa 53:5** There they are, in great terror, where there is no terror! For God scatters the bones of him who encamps against you; you put them to shame, for God has rejected them.

**Psa 53:6** Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion! When God restores the fortunes of his people, Let Jacob rejoice, let Israel be glad.

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What does the fool think (v1)?*

*What is the point of verses 2-3?*

*Are there consequences for those who "work evil" (v4-5)? Explain*

*How does David look at the future (v6)?*

# PSALM 54

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**Psa 54:1** To the choirmaster: with stringed instruments. A Maskil of David, when the Ziphites went and told Saul, "Is not David hiding among us?" O God, save me, by your name, and vindicate me by your might.

**Psa 54:2** O God, hear my prayer; give ear to the words of my mouth.

**Psa 54:3** For strangers have risen against me; ruthless men seek my life; they do not set God before themselves. Selah.

**Psa 54:4** Behold, God is my helper; the Lord is the upholder of my life.

**Psa 54:5** He will return the evil to my enemies; in your faithfulness put an end to them.

**Psa 54:6** With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you; I will give thanks to your name, O LORD, for it is good.

**Psa 54:7** For he has delivered me from every trouble, and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What was going on when David wrote this psalm? (v1, 3)*

*What are David's prayer requests? (v1, 2)*

*How does David describe the "strangers"? (v3)*

*How does David see God? (v4, 5)*

*What is David's approach to dealing with the situation? (v6, 7)*

# PSALM 55

**Psa 55:1** To the choirmaster: with stringed instruments. A Maskil of David. Give ear to my prayer, O God, and hide not yourself from my plea for mercy!

Psa 55:2 Attend to me, and answer me; I am restless in my complaint and I moan,

Psa 55:3 because of the noise of the enemy, because of the oppression of the wicked. For they drop trouble upon me, and in anger they bear a grudge against me.

Psa 55:4 My heart is in anguish within me; the terrors of death have fallen upon me.

Psa 55:5 Fear and trembling come upon me, and horror overwhelms me.

Psa 55:6 And I say, "Oh, that I had wings like a dove! I would fly away and be at rest;

Psa 55:7 yes, I would wander far away; I would lodge in the wilderness; Selah.

Psa 55:8 I would hurry to find a shelter from the raging wind and tempest."

Psa 55:9 Destroy, O Lord, divide their tongues; for I see violence and strife in the city.

Psa 55:10 Day and night they go around it on its walls, and iniquity and trouble are within it;

Psa 55:11 ruin is in its midst; oppression and fraud do not depart from its marketplace.

Psa 55:12 For it is not an enemy who taunts me-- then I could bear it; it is not an adversary who deals insolently with me-- then I could hide from him.

Psa 55:13 But it is you, a man, my equal, my companion, my familiar friend.

Psa 55:14 We used to take sweet counsel together; within God's house we walked in the throng.

Psa 55:15 Let death steal over them; let them go down to Sheol alive; for evil is in their dwelling place and in their heart.

Psa 55:16 But I call to God, and the LORD will save me.

Psa 55:17 Evening and morning and at noon I utter my complaint and moan, and he hears my voice.

Psa 55:18 He redeems my soul in safety from the battle that I wage, for many are arrayed against me.

Psa 55:19 God will give ear and humble them, he who is enthroned from of old, Selah, because they do not change and do not fear God.

Psa 55:20 My companion stretched out his hand against his friends; he violated his covenant.

Psa 55:21 His speech was smooth as butter, yet war was in his heart; his words were softer than oil, yet they were drawn swords.

Psa 55:22 Cast your burden on the LORD, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved.

Psa 55:23 But you, O God, will cast them down into the pit of destruction; men of blood and treachery shall not live out half their days. But I will trust in you.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### *How serious is David's prayer request? (v 1-5)*

### *What would David like to do if he could? (v 6-8)*

### *What does David want God to do? Why? (v 9-11)*

### *What makes David's plight so unbearable? (v 12-15, 20,21)*

### *How often is David praying and what does he believe? (v 16-19)*

### *What is David's guidance to us?(v 22-23)*

# PSALM 56

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**Psa 56:1** To the choirmaster: according to The Dove on Far-off Terebinths. A Miktam of David, when the Philistines seized him in Gath. Be gracious to me, O God, for man tramples on me; all day long an attacker oppresses me;

**Psa 56:2** my enemies trample on me all day long, for many attack me proudly.

**Psa 56:3** When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.

**Psa 56:4** In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?

**Psa 56:5** All day long they injure my cause; all their thoughts are against me for evil.

**Psa 56:6** They stir up strife, they lurk; they watch my steps, as they have waited for my life.

**Psa 56:7** For their crime will they escape? In wrath cast down the peoples, O God!

**Psa 56:8** You have kept count of my tossings; put my tears in your bottle. Are they not in your book?

**Psa 56:9** Then my enemies will turn back in the day when I call. This I know, that God is for me.

**Psa 56:10** In God, whose word I praise, in the LORD, whose word I praise,

**Psa 56:11** in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can man do to me?

**Psa 56:12** I must perform my vows to you, O God; I will render thank offerings to you.

**Psa 56:13** For you have delivered my soul from death, yes, my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of life.

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What is David's situation?*

*(v1-2, 5-7)*

*What is David's response to the situation? (v3-4)*

*What does David believe about God? (v8-9)*

*What is David's response to "man"? To God? (v10-12)*

*How does this Psalm end? (v13)*

# PSALM 57

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*For the director of music. To the tune of "Do Not Destroy"; Of David. A miktam . When he had fled from Saul into the cave.*

<sup>1</sup> Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me,  
for in you my soul takes refuge.  
I will take refuge in the shadow of your wings  
until the disaster has passed.

<sup>2</sup> I cry out to God Most High,  
to God, who fulfills {his purpose} for me.

<sup>3</sup> He sends from heaven and saves me,  
rebuking those who hotly pursue me;  
Selah  
God sends his love and his faithfulness.

<sup>4</sup> I am in the midst of lions;  
I lie among ravenous beasts-  
men whose teeth are spears and arrows,  
whose tongues are sharp swords.

<sup>5</sup> Be exalted, O God, above the heavens;  
let your glory be over all the earth.

<sup>6</sup> They spread a net for my feet-  
I was bowed down in distress.  
They dug a pit in my path-  
but they have fallen into it themselves.  
Selah

<sup>7</sup> My heart is steadfast, O God,  
my heart is steadfast;  
I will sing and make music.

<sup>8</sup> Awake, my soul!  
Awake, harp and lyre!  
I will awaken the dawn.

<sup>9</sup> I will praise you, O Lord, among the  
nations;  
I will sing of you among the peoples.

<sup>10</sup> For great is your love, reaching to the  
heavens;  
your faithfulness reaches to the skies.

<sup>11</sup> Be exalted, O God, above the heavens;  
let your glory be over all the earth.

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*When did David write this psalm?  
How does this information help us understand the psalm?*

*What structure do you see in the layout of the psalm?*

*What are the big ideas (themes) of the psalm?*

*What attributes of God are mentioned? Repeated?*

# PSALM 58

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**Psa 58:1** To the choirmaster:  
according to Do Not Destroy. A  
Miktam of David. Do you indeed  
decree what is right, you gods?  
Do you judge the children of man  
uprightly?

**Psa 58:2** No, in your hearts you  
devise wrongs; your hands deal  
out violence on earth.

**Psa 58:3** The wicked are estranged  
from the womb; they go astray  
from birth, speaking lies.

**Psa 58:4** They have venom like the  
venom of a serpent, like the deaf  
adder that stops its ear,

**Psa 58:5** so that it does not hear the  
voice of charmers or of the  
cunning enchanter.

**Psa 58:6** O God, break the teeth in  
their mouths; tear out the fangs  
of the young lions, O LORD!

**Psa 58:7** Let them vanish like water  
that runs away; when he aims his  
arrows, let them be blunted.

**Psa 58:8** Let them be like the snail  
that dissolves into slime, like the  
stillborn child who never sees the  
sun.

**Psa 58:9** Sooner than your pots can  
feel the heat of thorns, whether  
green or ablaze, may he sweep  
them away!

**Psa 58:10** The righteous will rejoice  
when he sees the vengeance; he  
will bathe his feet in the blood of  
the wicked.

**Psa 58:11** Mankind will say, "Surely  
there is a reward for the  
righteous; surely there is a God  
who judges on earth."

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*Who wrote the Psalm?*

*What is the Psalm about?*

*What is the prayer request?*

*What does the psalmist believe  
God will do?*

# PSALM 59

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**Psa 59:1** To the choirmaster: according to Do Not Destroy. A Miktam of David, when Saul sent men to watch his house in order to kill him.

Deliver me from my enemies, O my God; protect me from those who rise up against me;

**Psa 59:2** deliver me from those who work evil, and save me from bloodthirsty men.

**Psa 59:3** For behold, they lie in wait for my life; fierce men stir up strife against me. For no transgression or sin of mine, O LORD,

**Psa 59:4** for no fault of mine, they run and make ready. Awake, come to meet me, and see!

**Psa 59:5** You, LORD God of hosts, are God of Israel. Rouse yourself to punish all the nations; spare none of those who treacherously plot evil. Selah.

**Psa 59:6** Each evening they come back, howling like dogs and prowling about the city.

**Psa 59:7** There they are, bellowing with their mouths with swords in their lips-- for "Who," they think, "will hear us?"

**Psa 59:8** But you, O LORD, laugh at them; you hold all the nations in derision.

**Psa 59:9** O my Strength, I will watch for you, for you, O God, are my fortress.

**Psa 59:10** My God in his steadfast love will meet me; God will let me look in triumph on my enemies.

**Psa 59:11** Kill them not, lest my people forget; make them totter by your power and bring them down, O Lord, our shield!

**Psa 59:12** For the sin of their mouths, the words of their lips, let them be trapped in their pride. For the cursing and lies that they utter,

**Psa 59:13** consume them in wrath; consume them till they are no more, that they may know that God rules over Jacob to the ends of the earth. Selah.

**Psa 59:14** Each evening they come back, howling like dogs and prowling about the city.

**Psa 59:15** They wander about for food and growl if they do not get their fill.

**Psa 59:16** But I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning. For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress.

**Psa 59:17** O my Strength, I will sing praises to you, for you, O God, are my fortress, the God who shows me steadfast love.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### *What motivated the writing of this Psalm?*

### *What are David's personal requests?*

### *What has David done to get into this situation?*

### *How does David want God to act?*

### *What is David committed to do?*

# PSALM 60

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**Psa 60:1** To the choirmaster:  
 according to Shushan Eduth. A  
 Miktam of David; for instruction;  
 when he strove with Aram-naharaim  
 and with Aram-zobah, and when  
 Joab on his return struck down  
 twelve thousand of Edom in the  
 Valley of Salt. O God, you have  
 rejected us, broken our defenses;  
 you have been angry; oh, restore us.

**Psa 60:2** You have made the land to  
 quake; you have torn it open; repair  
 its breaches, for it totters.

**Psa 60:3** You have made your people  
 see hard things; you have given us  
 wine to drink that made us stagger.

**Psa 60:4** You have set up a banner for  
 those who fear you, that they may  
 flee to it from the bow. Selah.

**Psa 60:5** That your beloved ones may be  
 delivered, give salvation by your  
 right hand and answer us!

**Psa 60:6** God has spoken in his  
 holiness: "With exultation I will  
 divide up Shechem and portion out  
 the Vale of Succoth.

**Psa 60:7** Gilead is mine; Manasseh is  
 mine; Ephraim is my helmet; Judah  
 is my scepter.

**Psa 60:8** Moab is my washbasin; upon  
 Edom I cast my shoe; over Philistia I  
 shout in triumph."

**Psa 60:9** Who will bring me to the  
 fortified city? Who will lead me to  
 Edom?

**Psa 60:10** Have you not rejected us, O  
 God? You do not go forth, O God,  
 with our armies.

**Psa 60:11** Oh, grant us help against the  
 foe, for vain is the salvation of man!

**Psa 60:12** With God we shall do  
 valiantly; it is he who will tread  
 down our foes.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### *What do you think the main point the psalmist is trying to make?*

### *How do we apply this psalm to our lives today?*

# PSALM 61

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**Psa 61:1** To the choirmaster: with stringed instruments. Of David. Hear my cry, O God, listen to my prayer;

**Psa 61:2** from the end of the earth I call to you when my heart is faint. Lead me to the rock that is higher than I,

**Psa 61:3** for you have been my refuge, a strong tower against the enemy.

**Psa 61:4** Let me dwell in your tent forever! Let me take refuge under the shelter of your wings! Selah.

**Psa 61:5** For you, O God, have heard my vows; you have given me the heritage of those who fear your name.

**Psa 61:6** Prolong the life of the king; may his years endure to all generations!

**Psa 61:7** May he be enthroned forever before God; appoint steadfast love and faithfulness to watch over him!

**Psa 61:8** So will I ever sing praises to your name, as I perform my vows day after day.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### *How does David see God?*

### *What is David's request of God?*

### *What is David's promise to God?*

# PSALM 62

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**Psa 62:1** To the choirmaster: according to Jeduthun. A Psalm of David. For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation.

**Psa 62:2** He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken.

**Psa 62:3** How long will all of you attack a man to batter him, like a leaning wall, a tottering fence?

**Psa 62:4** They only plan to thrust him down from his high position. They take pleasure in falsehood. They bless with their mouths, but inwardly they curse. Selah.

**Psa 62:5** For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope is from him.

**Psa 62:6** He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

**Psa 62:7** On God rests my salvation and my glory; my mighty rock, my refuge is God.

**Psa 62:8** Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us. Selah.

**Psa 62:9** Those of low estate are but a breath; those of high estate are a delusion; in the balances they go up; they are together lighter than a breath.

**Psa 62:10** Put no trust in extortion; set no vain hopes on robbery; if riches increase, set not your heart on them.

**Psa 62:11** Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God,

**Psa 62:12** and that to you, O Lord, belongs steadfast love. For you will render to a man according to his work.

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What motivates the writing of this Psalm?*

*Where is David's confidence?*

*What is he counting on?*

*What are his instructions for us?*

*What does he reveal about life?*

*Does how we live our lives matter?*

# PSALM 63

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**Psa 63:1** A Psalm of David, when he was in the wilderness of Judah. O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

**Psa 63:2** So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.

**Psa 63:3** Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

**Psa 63:4** So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands.

**Psa 63:5** My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips,

**Psa 63:6** when I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night;

**Psa 63:7** for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy.

**Psa 63:8** My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.

**Psa 63:9** But those who seek to destroy my life shall go down into the depths of the earth;

**Psa 63:10** they shall be given over to the power of the sword; they shall be a portion for jackals.

**Psa 63:11** But the king shall rejoice in God; all who swear by him shall exult, for the mouths of liars will be stopped.

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*Where did David write this psalm?  
What motivated him to write it?*

*Did David actually see God?  
What does he mean in verse 2?*

*How does David live his faith  
publically and privately?*

*What does David see as the  
ultimate destiny for his enemies?*

*What attributes of God does David  
focus on?*

# PSALM 64

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- Psa 64:1** To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David. Hear my voice, O God, in my complaint; preserve my life from dread of the enemy.
- Psa 64:2** Hide me from the secret plots of the wicked, from the throng of evildoers,
- Psa 64:3** who whet their tongues like swords, who aim bitter words like arrows,
- Psa 64:4** shooting from ambush at the blameless, shooting at him suddenly and without fear.
- Psa 64:5** They hold fast to their evil purpose; they talk of laying snares secretly, thinking, who can see them?
- Psa 64:6** They search out injustice, saying, "We have accomplished a diligent search." For the inward mind and heart of a man are deep!
- Psa 64:7** But God shoots his arrow at them; they are wounded suddenly.
- Psa 64:8** They are brought to ruin, with their own tongues turned against them; all who see them will wag their heads.
- Psa 64:9** Then all mankind fears; they tell what God has brought about and ponder what he has done.
- Psa 64:10** Let the righteous one rejoice in the LORD and take refuge in him! Let all the upright in heart exult!

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### *What are David's three prayer requests? (v 1,2)*

### *How are the wicked described by David? (v2-6)*

### *What future does David see for the wicked? (v 7,8)*

### *What are the two groups of people referred to in verses 9 and 10?*

### *What is the difference in their responses?*

# PSALM 65

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**Psa 65:1** To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David. A Song. Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion, and to you shall vows be performed.

**Psa 65:2** O you who hears prayer, to you shall all flesh come.

**Psa 65:3** When iniquities prevail against me, you atone for our transgressions.

**Psa 65:4** Blessed is the one you choose and bring near, to dwell in your courts! We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, the holiness of your temple!

**Psa 65:5** By awesome deeds you answer us with righteousness, O God of our salvation, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas;

**Psa 65:6** the one who by his strength established the mountains, being girded with might;

**Psa 65:7** who stills the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples,

**Psa 65:8** so that those who dwell at the ends of the earth are in awe at your signs. You make the going out of the morning and the evening to shout for joy.

**Psa 65:9** You visit the earth and water it; you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide their grain, for so you have prepared it.

**Psa 65:10** You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.

**Psa 65:11** You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with abundance.

**Psa 65:12** The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy,

**Psa 65:13** the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### *What does this psalm tell us about us?*

### *What is the point of this psalm?*

### *What does this psalm tell us about God?*

### *If this were one of our songs, what category would you put it in?*

# PSALM 66

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**Psa 66:1** To the choirmaster. A Song. A Psalm. Shout for joy to God, all the earth;

Psa 66:2 sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise!

Psa 66:3 Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to you.

Psa 66:4 All the earth worships you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name." Selah.

Psa 66:5 Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man.

Psa 66:6 He turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot. There did we rejoice in him,

Psa 66:7 who rules by his might forever, whose eyes keep watch on the nations-- let not the rebellious exalt themselves. Selah.

Psa 66:8 Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard,

Psa 66:9 who has kept our soul among the living and has not let our feet slip.

Psa 66:10 For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

Psa 66:11 You brought us into the net; you laid a crushing burden on our backs;

Psa 66:12 you let men ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a place of abundance.

Psa 66:13 I will come into your house with burnt offerings; I will perform my vows to you,

Psa 66:14 that which my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.

Psa 66:15 I will offer to you burnt offerings of fattened animals, with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams; I

will make an offering of bulls and goats. Selah.

Psa 66:16 Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for my soul.

Psa 66:17 I cried to him with my mouth, and high praise was on my tongue.

Psa 66:18 If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.

Psa 66:19 But truly God has listened; he has attended to the voice of my prayer.

Psa 66:20 Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me!

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What is the psalmist asking of worshippers in verses 1-9?*

*How does the psalmist view adversity? (v10-12)*

*What is the psalmist doing in verses 13-20?*

# PSALM 67

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**Psa 67:1** To the choirmaster: with stringed instruments. A Psalm. A Song. May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, Selah.

**Psa 67:2** that your way may be known on earth, your saving power among all nations.

**Psa 67:3** Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!

**Psa 67:4** Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth. Selah.

**Psa 67:5** Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!

**Psa 67:6** The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, shall bless us.

**Psa 67:7** God shall bless us; let all the ends of the earth fear him!

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What musical structure to you see in this psalm?*

*What is the point of the request in verse 2?*

*What is the psalmist urging the people to do?*

*Why the urging?*

*How does verse 7 tie to verse 1?*

# PSALM 68

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- Psa 68:1** To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David. A Song. God shall arise, his enemies shall be scattered; and those who hate him shall flee before him!
- Psa 68:2** As smoke is driven away, so you shall drive them away; as wax melts before fire, so the wicked shall perish before God!
- Psa 68:3** But the righteous shall be glad; they shall exult before God; they shall be jubilant with joy!
- Psa 68:4** Sing to God, sing praises to his name; lift up a song to him who rides through the deserts; his name is the LORD; exult before him!
- Psa 68:5** Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation.
- Psa 68:6** God settles the solitary in a home; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious dwell in a parched land.
- Psa 68:7** O God, when you went out before your people, when you marched through the wilderness, Selah.
- Psa 68:8** the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain, before God, the One of Sinai, before God, the God of Israel.
- Psa 68:9** Rain in abundance, O God, you shed abroad; you restored your inheritance as it languished;
- Psa 68:10** your flock found a dwelling in it; in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.
- Psa 68:11** The Lord gives the word; the women who announce the news are a great host:
- Psa 68:12** "The kings of the armies-- they flee, they flee!" The women at home divide the spoil--
- Psa 68:13** though you men lie among the sheepfolds-- the wings of a dove covered with silver, its pinions with shimmering gold.
- Psa 68:14** When the Almighty scatters kings there, let snow fall on Zalmon.
- Psa 68:15** O mountain of God, mountain of Bashan; O many-peaked mountain, mountain of Bashan!
- Psa 68:16** Why do you look with hatred, O many-peaked mountain, at the mount that God desired for his abode, yes, where the LORD will dwell forever?
- Psa 68:17** The chariots of God are twice ten thousand, thousands upon thousands; the Lord is among them; Sinai is now in the sanctuary.
- Psa 68:18** You ascended on high, leading a host of captives in your train and receiving gifts among men, even among the rebellious, that the LORD God may dwell there.
- Psa 68:19** Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up; God is our salvation. Selah.
- Psa 68:20** Our God is a God of salvation, and to GOD, the Lord, belong deliverances from death.
- Psa 68:21** But God will strike the heads of his enemies, the hairy crown of him who walks in his guilty ways.
- Psa 68:22** The Lord said, "I will bring them back from Bashan, I will bring them back from the depths of the sea,
- Psa 68:23** that you may strike your feet in their blood, that the tongues of your dogs may have their portion from the foe."
- Psa 68:24** Your procession is seen, O God, the procession of my God, my King, into the sanctuary--
- Psa 68:25** the singers in front, the musicians last, between them virgins playing tambourines:

Psa 68:26 "Bless God in the great congregation, the LORD, O you who are of Israel's fountain!"

Psa 68:27 There is Benjamin, the least of them, in the lead, the princes of Judah in their throng, the princes of Zebulun, the princes of Naphtali.

Psa 68:28 Summon your power, O God, the power, O God, by which you have worked for us.

Psa 68:29 Because of your temple at Jerusalem kings shall bear gifts to you.

Psa 68:30 Rebuke the beasts that dwell among the reeds, the herd of bulls with the calves of the peoples. Trample underfoot those who lust after tribute; scatter the peoples who delight in war.

Psa 68:31 Nobles shall come from Egypt; Cush shall hasten to stretch out her hands to God.

Psa 68:32 O kingdoms of the earth, sing to God; sing praises to the Lord, Selah.

Psa 68:33 to him who rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; behold, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice.

Psa 68:34 Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel, and whose power is in the skies.

Psa 68:35 Awesome is God from his sanctuary; the God of Israel--he is the one who gives power and strength to his people. Blessed be God!

*Who is the Psalmist?*

*What will happen to the enemies of God?*

*How is God described?*

*What do you think this Psalm is all about?*

## **Questions to reflect on**

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

# PSALM 69

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**Psa 69:1** To the choirmaster: according to Lilies. Of David. Save me, O God! For the waters have come up to my neck.

**Psa 69:2** I sink in deep mire, where there is no foothold; I have come into deep waters, and the flood sweeps over me.

**Psa 69:3** I am weary with my crying out; my throat is parched. My eyes grow dim with waiting for my God.

**Psa 69:4** More in number than the hairs of my head are those who hate me without cause; mighty are those who would destroy me, those who attack me with lies. What I did not steal must I now restore?

**Psa 69:5** O God, you know my folly; the wrongs I have done are not hidden from you.

**Psa 69:6** Let not those who hope in you be put to shame through me, O Lord GOD of hosts; let not those who seek you be brought to dishonor through me, O God of Israel.

**Psa 69:7** For it is for your sake that I have borne reproach, that dishonor has covered my face.

**Psa 69:8** I have become a stranger to my brothers, an alien to my mother's sons.

**Psa 69:9** For zeal for your house has consumed me, and the reproaches of those who reproach you have fallen on me.

**Psa 69:10** When I wept and humbled my soul with fasting, it became my reproach.

**Psa 69:11** When I made sackcloth my clothing, I became a byword to them.

**Psa 69:12** I am the talk of those who sit in the gate, and the drunkards make songs about me.

**Psa 69:13** But as for me, my prayer is to you, O LORD. At an acceptable time, O God, in the abundance of your

steadfast love answer me in your saving faithfulness.

**Psa 69:14** Deliver me from sinking in the mire; let me be delivered from my enemies and from the deep waters.

**Psa 69:15** Let not the flood sweep over me, or the deep swallow me up, or the pit close its mouth over me.

**Psa 69:16** Answer me, O LORD, for your steadfast love is good; according to your abundant mercy, turn to me.

**Psa 69:17** Hide not your face from your servant; for I am in distress; make haste to answer me.

**Psa 69:18** Draw near to my soul, redeem me; ransom me because of my enemies!

**Psa 69:19** You know my reproach, and my shame and my dishonor; my foes are all known to you.

**Psa 69:20** Reproaches have broken my heart, so that I am in despair. I looked for pity, but there was none, and for comforters, but I found none.

**Psa 69:21** They gave me poison for food, and for my thirst they gave me sour wine to drink.

**Psa 69:22** Let their own table before them become a snare; and when they are at peace, let it become a trap.

**Psa 69:23** Let their eyes be darkened, so that they cannot see, and make their loins tremble continually.

**Psa 69:24** Pour out your indignation upon them, and let your burning anger overtake them.

**Psa 69:25** May their camp be a desolation; let no one dwell in their tents.

**Psa 69:26** For they persecute him whom you have struck down, and they recount the pain of those you have wounded.

Psa 69:27 Add to them punishment upon punishment; may they have no acquittal from you.

Psa 69:28 Let them be blotted out of the book of the living; let them not be enrolled among the righteous.

Psa 69:29 But I am afflicted and in pain; let your salvation, O God, set me on high!

Psa 69:30 I will praise the name of God with a song; I will magnify him with thanksgiving.

Psa 69:31 This will please the LORD more than an ox or a bull with horns and hoofs.

Psa 69:32 When the humble see it they will be glad; you who seek God, let your hearts revive.

Psa 69:33 For the LORD hears the needy and does not despise his own people who are prisoners.

Psa 69:34 Let heaven and earth praise him, the seas and everything that moves in them.

Psa 69:35 For God will save Zion and build up the cities of Judah, and people shall dwell there and possess it;

Psa 69:36 the offspring of his servants shall inherit it, and those who love his name shall dwell in it.

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What picture does David paint in verses 1-3?*

*What are verses 4, 19-21 about?*

*What does David attribute his problems to? (v 6-12)*

*What are David's prayer requests in verses 1-18? Which one is repeated most?*

*What is David asking God to do in verses 22-28?*

*What do verses 29-31 tell us about the character of David?*

*How does the focus of the psalm change in verses 32-36?*

# PSALM 70

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**Psa 70:1** To the choirmaster. Of David, for the memorial offering. Make haste, O God, to deliver me! O LORD, make haste to help me!

**Psa 70:2** Let them be put to shame and confusion who seek my life! Let them be turned back and brought to dishonor who desire my hurt!

**Psa 70:3** Let them turn back because of their shame who say, "Aha, Aha!"

**Psa 70:4** May all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you! May those who love your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"

**Psa 70:5** But I am poor and needy; hasten to me, O God! You are my help and my deliverer; O LORD, do not delay!

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What are David's prayer requests for himself?*

*How quickly does he want God to act?*

*How does David describe his enemies and what is his prayer request for them?*

*What is David's prayer request for those who seek God?*

*How does David report his condition?*

*How does David see God?*

# PSALM 71

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**Psa 71:1** In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame!

**Psa 71:2** In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me, and save me!

**Psa 71:3** Be to me a rock of refuge, to which I may continually come; you have given the command to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.

**Psa 71:4** Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel man.

**Psa 71:5** For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O LORD, from my youth.

**Psa 71:6** Upon you I have leaned from before my birth; you are he who took me from my mother's womb. My praise is continually of you.

**Psa 71:7** I have been as a portent to many, but you are my strong refuge.

**Psa 71:8** My mouth is filled with your praise, and with your glory all the day.

**Psa 71:9** Do not cast me off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength is spent.

**Psa 71:10** For my enemies speak concerning me; those who watch for my life consult together

**Psa 71:11** and say, "God has forsaken him; pursue and seize him, for there is none to deliver him."

**Psa 71:12** O God, be not far from me; O my God, make haste to help me!

**Psa 71:13** May my accusers be put to shame and consumed; with scorn and disgrace may they be covered who seek my hurt.

**Psa 71:14** But I will hope continually and will praise you yet more and more.

**Psa 71:15** My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all the day, for their number is past my knowledge.

**Psa 71:16** With the mighty deeds of the Lord GOD I will come; I will remind them of your righteousness, yours alone.

**Psa 71:17** O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.

**Psa 71:18** So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to another

generation, your power to all those to come.

**Psa 71:19** Your righteousness, O God, reaches the high heavens. You who have done great things, O God, who is like you?

**Psa 71:20** You who have made me see many troubles and calamities will revive me again; from the depths of the earth you will bring me up again.

**Psa 71:21** You will increase my greatness and comfort me again.

**Psa 71:22** I will also praise you with the harp for your faithfulness, O my God; I will sing praises to you with the lyre, O Holy One of Israel.

**Psa 71:23** My lips will shout for joy, when I sing praises to you; my soul also, which you have redeemed.

**Psa 71:24** And my tongue will talk of your righteous help all the day long, for they have been put to shame and disappointed who sought to do me hurt.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### *How does David picture or describe God?*

### *What are David's concerns?*

### *How does David respond to God?*

### *How often does David think of God?*

# PSALM 72

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**Psa 72:1** Of Solomon. Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son!

**Psa 72:2** May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice!

**Psa 72:3** Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness!

**Psa 72:4** May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!

**Psa 72:5** May they fear you while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!

**Psa 72:6** May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth!

**Psa 72:7** In his days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more!

**Psa 72:8** May he have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth!

**Psa 72:9** May desert tribes bow down before him and his enemies lick the dust!

**Psa 72:10** May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render him tribute; may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!

**Psa 72:11** May all kings fall down before him, all nations serve him!

**Psa 72:12** For he delivers the needy when he calls, the poor and him who has no helper.

**Psa 72:13** He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy.

**Psa 72:14** From oppression and violence he redeems their life, and precious is their blood in his sight.

**Psa 72:15** Long may he live; may gold of Sheba be given to him! May prayer be made for him continually, and

blessings invoked for him all the day!

**Psa 72:16** May there be abundance of grain in the land; on the tops of the mountains may it wave; may its fruit be like Lebanon; and may people blossom in the cities like the grass of the field!

**Psa 72:17** May his name endure forever, his fame continue as long as the sun! May people be blessed in him, all nations call him blessed!

**Psa 72:18** Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

**Psa 72:19** Blessed be his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his glory! Amen and Amen!

**Psa 72:20** The prayers of David, the son of Jesse, are ended.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### *Who wrote this psalm (v1,20)?*

### *Who is this prayer for?*

### *What are the major themes of the prayer?*

# PSALM 73

**Psa 73:1** A Psalm of Asaph. Truly God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart.

**Psa 73:2** But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled, my steps had nearly slipped.

**Psa 73:3** For I was envious of the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

**Psa 73:4** For they have no pangs until death; their bodies are fat and sleek.

**Psa 73:5** They are not in trouble as others are; they are not stricken like the rest of mankind.

**Psa 73:6** Therefore pride is their necklace; violence covers them as a garment.

**Psa 73:7** Their eyes swell out through fatness; their hearts overflow with follies.

**Psa 73:8** They scoff and speak with malice; loftily they threaten oppression.

**Psa 73:9** They set their mouths against the heavens, and their tongue struts through the earth.

**Psa 73:10** Therefore his people turn back to them, and find no fault in them.

**Psa 73:11** And they say, "How can God know? Is there knowledge in the Most High?"

**Psa 73:12** Behold, these are the wicked; always at ease, they increase in riches.

**Psa 73:13** All in vain have I kept my heart clean and washed my hands in innocence.

**Psa 73:14** For all the day long I have been stricken and rebuked every morning.

**Psa 73:15** If I had said, "I will speak thus," I would have betrayed the generation of your children.

**Psa 73:16** But when I thought how to understand this, it seemed to me a wearisome task,

**Psa 73:17** until I went into the sanctuary of God; then I discerned their end.

**Psa 73:18** Truly you set them in slippery places; you make them fall to ruin.

**Psa 73:19** How they are destroyed in a moment, swept away utterly by terrors!

**Psa 73:20** Like a dream when one awakes, O Lord, when you rouse yourself, you despise them as phantoms.

**Psa 73:21** When my soul was embittered, when I was pricked in heart,

**Psa 73:22** I was brutish and ignorant; I was like a beast toward you.

**Psa 73:23** Nevertheless, I am continually with you; you hold my right hand.

**Psa 73:24** You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will receive me to glory.

**Psa 73:25** Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you.

**Psa 73:26** My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

**Psa 73:27** For behold, those who are far from you shall perish; you put an end to everyone who is unfaithful to you.

**Psa 73:28** But for me it is good to be near God; I have made the Lord GOD my refuge, that I may tell of all your works.

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*Who wrote this psalm and what does he believe? (v1)*

*What does the psalmist confess? (v2)*

*Summarize in one sentence the psalmist's feelings about the wicked and arrogant in verses 3-12?*

*Summarize the psalmist's personal feelings in verses 13-15?*

*Why are verses 16-17 the key verses in this psalm? Explain*

*What does the psalmist realize about the wicked? (v18-20)*

*What does the psalmist realize about his self? (v21-22)*

*How would you characterize where the psalmist is at now? (v23-26)*

*What is the psalmist's application of his lesson? (v28)*

# PSALM 74

**Psa 74:1** A Maskil of Asaph. O God, why do you cast us off forever? Why does your anger smoke against the sheep of your pasture?

Psa 74:2 Remember your congregation, which you have purchased of old, which you have redeemed to be the tribe of your heritage! Remember Mount Zion, where you have dwelt.

Psa 74:3 Direct your steps to the perpetual ruins; the enemy has destroyed everything in the sanctuary!

Psa 74:4 Your foes have roared in the midst of your meeting place; they set up their own signs for signs.

Psa 74:5 They were like those who swing axes in a forest of trees.

Psa 74:6 And all its carved wood they broke down with hatchets and hammers.

Psa 74:7 They set your sanctuary on fire; they profaned the dwelling place of your name, bringing it down to the ground.

Psa 74:8 They said to themselves, "We will utterly subdue them"; they burned all the meeting places of God in the land.

Psa 74:9 We do not see our signs; there is no longer any prophet, and there is none among us who knows how long.

Psa 74:10 How long, O God, is the foe to scoff? Is the enemy to revile your name forever?

Psa 74:11 Why do you hold back your hand, your right hand? Take it from the fold of your garment and destroy them!

Psa 74:12 Yet God my King is from of old, working salvation in the midst of the earth.

Psa 74:13 You divided the sea by your might; you broke the heads of the sea monsters on the waters.

Psa 74:14 You crushed the heads of Leviathan; you gave him as food for the creatures of the wilderness.

Psa 74:15 You split open springs and brooks; you dried up ever-flowing streams.

Psa 74:16 Yours is the day, yours also the night; you have established the heavenly lights and the sun.

Psa 74:17 You have fixed all the boundaries of the earth; you have made summer and winter.

Psa 74:18 Remember this, O LORD, how the enemy scoffs, and a foolish people reviles your name.

Psa 74:19 Do not deliver the soul of your dove to the wild beasts; do not forget the life of your poor forever.

Psa 74:20 Have regard for the covenant, for the dark places of the land are full of the habitations of violence.

Psa 74:21 Let not the downtrodden turn back in shame; let the poor and needy praise your name.

Psa 74:22 Arise, O God, defend your cause; remember how the foolish scoff at you all the day!

Psa 74:23 Do not forget the clamor of your foes, the uproar of those who rise against you, which goes up continually!

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What is characteristic of a "why" question? (v1)*

*What is the unstated implication? (v2)*

*What point is the psalmist trying to get across to God in verses 3-8?*

*Why is verse 9 significant?*

*What is the psalmists main concern? (v10-11)*

*How does the focus shift in verses 12-17? What is the central idea?*

*What are the prayer requests? (v18-23) Who aren't they about?*

# PSALM 75

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**Psa 75:1** To the choirmaster: according to Do Not Destroy. A Psalm of Asaph. A Song. We give thanks to you, O God; we give thanks, for your name is near. We recount your wondrous deeds.

**Psa 75:2** "At the set time that I appoint I will judge with equity.

**Psa 75:3** When the earth totters, and all its inhabitants, it is I who keep steady its pillars. Selah.

**Psa 75:4** I say to the boastful, 'Do not boast,' and to the wicked, 'Do not lift up your horn;

**Psa 75:5** do not lift up your horn on high, or speak with haughty neck."

**Psa 75:6** For not from the east or from the west and not from the wilderness comes lifting up,

**Psa 75:7** but it is God who executes judgment, putting down one and lifting up another.

**Psa 75:8** For in the hand of the LORD there is a cup with foaming wine, well mixed, and he pours out from it, and all the wicked of the earth shall drain it down to the dregs.

**Psa 75:9** But I will declare it forever; I will sing praises to the God of Jacob.

**Psa 75:10** All the horns of the wicked I will cut off, but the horns of the righteous shall be lifted up.

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What is the theme of the opening verse?*

*Do verses 2-5 follow logically after verse 1?*

*Who is speaking in verses 2-5?*

*What are the main points? (v2-5)*

*What is the psalmist saying in verses 6-8?*

*What does the "it" refer to in verse 9?*

*What are the praises referring to in verse 9?*

*What is the promise in verse 10?*

# PSALM 76

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## As you read the verses mark them:

- > - psalmist is speaking to us
- ^ - psalmist is speaking to God
- v- God is speaking to us

- Psa 76:1** To the choirmaster: with stringed instruments. A Psalm of Asaph. A Song. In Judah God is known; his name is great in Israel.
- Psa 76:2** His abode has been established in Salem, his dwelling place in Zion.
- Psa 76:3** There he broke the flashing arrows, the shield, the sword, and the weapons of war. Selah.
- Psa 76:4** Glorious are you, more majestic than the mountains of prey.
- Psa 76:5** The stouthearted were stripped of their spoil; they sank into sleep; all the men of war were unable to use their hands.
- Psa 76:6** At your rebuke, O God of Jacob, both rider and horse lay stunned.
- Psa 76:7** But you, you are to be feared! Who can stand before you when once your anger is roused?
- Psa 76:8** From the heavens you uttered judgment; the earth feared and was still,
- Psa 76:9** when God arose to establish judgment, to save all the humble of the earth. Selah.
- Psa 76:10** Surely the wrath of man shall praise you; the remnant of wrath you will put on like a belt.
- Psa 76:11** Make your vows to the LORD your God and perform them; let all around him bring gifts to him who is to be feared,
- Psa 76:12** who cuts off the spirit of princes, who is to be feared by the kings of the earth.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### *What does "Selah" mean?*

*How do the directional arrows help us see the structure of the psalm?*

*What is the theme of each part?*

# PSALM 77

**Psa 77:1** To the choirmaster: according to Jeduthun. A Psalm of Asaph. I cry aloud to God, aloud to God, and he will hear me.

**Psa 77:2** In the day of my trouble I seek the Lord; in the night my hand is stretched out without wearying; my soul refuses to be comforted.

**Psa 77:3** When I remember God, I moan; when I meditate, my spirit faints. Selah.

**Psa 77:4** You hold my eyelids open; I am so troubled that I cannot speak.

**Psa 77:5** I consider the days of old, the years long ago.

**Psa 77:6** I said, "Let me remember my song in the night; let me meditate in my heart." Then my spirit made a diligent search:

**Psa 77:7** "Will the Lord spurn forever, and never again be favorable?"

**Psa 77:8** Has his steadfast love forever ceased? Are his promises at an end for all time?

**Psa 77:9** Has God forgotten to be gracious? Has he in anger shut up his compassion?" Selah.

**Psa 77:10** Then I said, "I will appeal to this, to the years of the right hand of the Most High."

**Psa 77:11** I will remember the deeds of the LORD; yes, I will remember your wonders of old.

**Psa 77:12** I will ponder all your work, and meditate on your mighty deeds.

**Psa 77:13** Your way, O God, is holy. What god is great like our God?

**Psa 77:14** You are the God who works wonders; you have made known your might among the peoples.

**Psa 77:15** You with your arm redeemed your people, the children of Jacob and Joseph. Selah.

**Psa 77:16** When the waters saw you, O God, when the waters saw you, they

were afraid; indeed, the deep trembled.

**Psa 77:17** The clouds poured out water; the skies gave forth thunder; your arrows flashed on every side.

**Psa 77:18** The crash of your thunder was in the whirlwind; your lightnings lighted up the world; the earth trembled and shook.

**Psa 77:19** Your way was through the sea, your path through the great waters; yet your footprints were unseen.

**Psa 77:20** You led your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### **V1-6**

*Who is the psalmist talking to?*

*How would you assess the psalmist's state of mind?*

*What does the psalmist believe about God?*

### **V7-9**

*What kind of questions is the psalmist asking?*

### **V10-12**

*How does the psalmist shift gears here?*

### **V13-20**

*What is the psalmist doing now?*

*What is his lesson to us?*

# PSALM 78

- Psa 78:1** A Maskil of Asaph. Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth!
- Psa 78:2** I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old,
- Psa 78:3** things that we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us.
- Psa 78:4** We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.
- Psa 78:5** He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children,
- Psa 78:6** that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children,
- Psa 78:7** so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments;
- Psa 78:8** and that they should not be like their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation, a generation whose heart was not steadfast, whose spirit was not faithful to God.
- Psa 78:9** The Ephraimites, armed with the bow, turned back on the day of battle.
- Psa 78:10** They did not keep God's covenant, but refused to walk according to his law.
- Psa 78:11** They forgot his works and the wonders that he had shown them.
- Psa 78:12** In the sight of their fathers he performed wonders in the land of Egypt, in the fields of Zoan.
- Psa 78:13** He divided the sea and let them pass through it, and made the waters stand like a heap.
- Psa 78:14** In the daytime he led them with a cloud, and all the night with a fiery light.
- Psa 78:15** He split rocks in the wilderness and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep.
- Psa 78:16** He made streams come out of the rock and caused waters to flow down like rivers.
- Psa 78:17** Yet they sinned still more against him, rebelling against the Most High in the desert.
- Psa 78:18** They tested God in their heart by demanding the food they craved.
- Psa 78:19** They spoke against God, saying, "Can God spread a table in the wilderness?"
- Psa 78:20** He struck the rock so that water gushed out and streams overflowed. Can he also give bread or provide meat for his people?"
- Psa 78:21** Therefore, when the LORD heard, he was full of wrath; a fire was kindled against Jacob; his anger rose against Israel,
- Psa 78:22** because they did not believe in God and did not trust his saving power.
- Psa 78:23** Yet he commanded the skies above and opened the doors of heaven,
- Psa 78:24** and he rained down on them manna to eat and gave them the grain of heaven.
- Psa 78:25** Man ate of the bread of the angels; he sent them food in abundance.
- Psa 78:26** He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens, and by his power he led out the south wind;
- Psa 78:27** he rained meat on them like dust, winged birds like the sand of the seas;
- Psa 78:28** he let them fall in the midst of their camp, all around their dwellings.
- Psa 78:29** And they ate and were well filled, for he gave them what they craved.
- Psa 78:30** But before they had satisfied their craving, while the food was still in their mouths,
- Psa 78:31** the anger of God rose against them, and he killed the strongest of them and laid low the young men of Israel.
- Psa 78:32** In spite of all this, they still sinned; despite his wonders, they did not believe.
- Psa 78:33** So he made their days vanish like a breath, and their years in terror.
- Psa 78:34** When he killed them, they sought him; they repented and sought God earnestly.
- Psa 78:35** They remembered that God was their rock, the Most High God their redeemer.
- Psa 78:36** But they flattered him with their mouths; they lied to him with their tongues.
- Psa 78:37** Their heart was not steadfast toward him; they were not faithful to his covenant.
- Psa 78:38** Yet he, being compassionate, atoned for their iniquity and did not destroy them; he restrained his anger often and did not stir up all his wrath.
- Psa 78:39** He remembered that they were but flesh, a wind that passes and comes not again.
- Psa 78:40** How often they rebelled against him in the wilderness and grieved him in the desert!
- Psa 78:41** They tested God again and again and provoked the Holy One of Israel.
- Psa 78:42** They did not remember his power or the day when he redeemed them from the foe,
- Psa 78:43** when he performed his signs in Egypt and his marvels in the fields of Zoan.
- Psa 78:44** He turned their rivers to blood, so that they could not drink of their streams.
- Psa 78:45** He sent among them swarms of flies, which devoured them, and frogs, which destroyed them.
- Psa 78:46** He gave their crops to the destroying locust and the fruit of their labor to the locust.
- Psa 78:47** He destroyed their vines with hail and their sycamores with frost.

Psa 78:48 He gave over their cattle to the hail and their flocks to thunderbolts.

Psa 78:49 He let loose on them his burning anger, wrath, indignation, and distress, a company of destroying angels.

Psa 78:50 He made a path for his anger; he did not spare them from death, but gave their lives over to the plague.

Psa 78:51 He struck down every firstborn in Egypt, the firstfruits of their strength in the tents of Ham.

Psa 78:52 Then he led out his people like sheep and guided them in the wilderness like a flock.

Psa 78:53 He led them in safety, so that they were not afraid, but the sea overwhelmed their enemies.

Psa 78:54 And he brought them to his holy land, to the mountain which his right hand had won.

Psa 78:55 He drove out nations before them; he apportioned them for a possession and settled the tribes of Israel in their tents.

Psa 78:56 Yet they tested and rebelled against the Most High God and did not keep his testimonies,

Psa 78:57 but turned away and acted treacherously like their fathers; they twisted like a deceitful bow.

Psa 78:58 For they provoked him to anger with their high places; they moved him to jealousy with their idols.

Psa 78:59 When God heard, he was full of wrath, and he utterly rejected Israel.

Psa 78:60 He forsook his dwelling at Shiloh, the tent where he dwelt among mankind,

Psa 78:61 and delivered his power to captivity, his glory to the hand of the foe.

Psa 78:62 He gave his people over to the sword and vented his wrath on his heritage.

Psa 78:63 Fire devoured their young men, and their young women had no marriage song.

Psa 78:64 Their priests fell by the sword, and their widows made no lamentation.

Psa 78:65 Then the Lord awoke as from sleep, like a strong man shouting because of wine.

Psa 78:66 And he put his adversaries to rout; he put them to everlasting shame.

Psa 78:67 He rejected the tent of Joseph; he did not choose the tribe of Ephraim,

Psa 78:68 but he chose the tribe of Judah, Mount Zion, which he loves.

Psa 78:69 He built his sanctuary like the high heavens, like the earth, which he has founded forever.

Psa 78:70 He chose David his servant and took him from the sheepfolds;

Psa 78:71 from following the nursing ewes he brought him to shepherd Jacob his people, Israel his inheritance.

Psa 78:72 With upright heart he shepherded them and guided them with his skillful hand.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### **VI-8**

*What is our responsibility to the coming generation?*

*What is the desired result of those efforts?*

### **V9-72**

*What defining event do the works and wonders detail?*

*What is the defining event for us?*

# PSALM 79

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**Psa 79:1** A Psalm of Asaph. O God, the nations have come into your inheritance; they have defiled your holy temple; they have laid Jerusalem in ruins.

**Psa 79:2** They have given the bodies of your servants to the birds of the heavens for food, the flesh of your faithful to the beasts of the earth.

**Psa 79:3** They have poured out their blood like water all around Jerusalem, and there was no one to bury them.

**Psa 79:4** We have become a taunt to our neighbors, mocked and derided by those around us.

**Psa 79:5** How long, O LORD? Will you be angry forever? Will your jealousy burn like fire?

**Psa 79:6** Pour out your anger on the nations that do not know you, and on the kingdoms that do not call upon your name!

**Psa 79:7** For they have devoured Jacob and laid waste his habitation.

**Psa 79:8** Do not remember against us our former iniquities; let your compassion come speedily to meet us, for we are brought very low.

**Psa 79:9** Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name; deliver us, and atone for our sins, for your name's sake!

**Psa 79:10** Why should the nations say, "Where is their God?" Let the avenging of the outpoured blood of your servants be known among the nations before our eyes!

**Psa 79:11** Let the groans of the prisoners come before you; according to your great power, preserve those doomed to die!

**Psa 79:12** Return sevenfold into the lap of our neighbors the taunts with which they have taunted you, O Lord!

**Psa 79:13** But we your people, the sheep of your pasture, will give thanks to you forever; from generation to generation we will recount your praise.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### **V1-3**

*What has happened?*

### **V4**

*What is the current state of affairs?*

### **V5**

*What is the big question? And underlying motive?*

### **V6-7**

*What is the prayer request?*

### **V8**

*What is the admission and request?*

### **V9-12**

*What is the request? How has the focus changed?*

### **V13**

*Why is this verse so important in light of the entire psalm?*

*How does this apply to us?*

# PSALM 80

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**Psa 80:1** To the choirmaster:  
according to Lilies. A Testimony. Of  
Asaph, a Psalm. Give ear, O  
Shepherd of Israel, you who lead  
Joseph like a flock! You who are  
enthroned upon the cherubim, shine  
forth.

**Psa 80:2** Before Ephraim and Benjamin  
and Manasseh, stir up your might  
and come to save us!

**Psa 80:3** Restore us, O God; let your  
face shine, that we may be saved!

**Psa 80:4** O LORD God of hosts, how  
long will you be angry with your  
people's prayers?

**Psa 80:5** You have fed them with the  
bread of tears and given them tears  
to drink in full measure.

**Psa 80:6** You make us an object of  
contention for our neighbors, and  
our enemies laugh among  
themselves.

**Psa 80:7** Restore us, O God of hosts; let  
your face shine, that we may be  
saved!

**Psa 80:8** You brought a vine out of  
Egypt; you drove out the nations and  
planted it.

**Psa 80:9** You cleared the ground for it;  
it took deep root and filled the land.

**Psa 80:10** The mountains were covered  
with its shade, the mighty cedars  
with its branches.

**Psa 80:11** It sent out its branches to the  
sea and its shoots to the River.

**Psa 80:12** Why then have you broken  
down its walls, so that all who pass  
along the way pluck its fruit?

**Psa 80:13** The boar from the forest  
ravages it, and all that move in the  
field feed on it.

**Psa 80:14** Turn again, O God of hosts!  
Look down from heaven, and see;  
have regard for this vine,

**Psa 80:15** the stock that your right hand  
planted, and for the son whom you  
made strong for yourself.

**Psa 80:16** They have burned it with fire;  
they have cut it down; may they  
perish at the rebuke of your face!

**Psa 80:17** But let your hand be on the  
man of your right hand, the son of  
man whom you have made strong  
for yourself!

**Psa 80:18** Then we shall not turn back  
from you; give us life, and we will  
call upon your name!

**Psa 80:19** Restore us, O LORD God of  
hosts! let your face shine, that we  
may be saved!

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*Is the focus individual or corporate?*

*What do verses 7 and 19 suggest about the structure of this psalm?*

*What do verses 7 and 19 emphasize?*

*What is the main point in verses 1-6?*

*What is the vine verses 8-18 are referring to? What is going on here?*

# PSALM 81

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**Psa 81:1** To the choirmaster: according to The Gittith. Of Asaph. Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to the God of Jacob!

**Psa 81:2** Raise a song; sound the tambourine, the sweet lyre with the harp.

**Psa 81:3** Blow the trumpet at the new moon, at the full moon, on our feast day.

**Psa 81:4** For it is a statute for Israel, a rule of the God of Jacob.

**Psa 81:5** He made it a decree in Joseph when he went out over the land of Egypt. I hear a language I had not known:

**Psa 81:6** "I relieved your shoulder of the burden; your hands were freed from the basket.

**Psa 81:7** In distress you called, and I delivered you; I answered you in the secret place of thunder; I tested you at the waters of Meribah. Selah.

**Psa 81:8** Hear, O my people, while I admonish you! O Israel, if you would but listen to me!

**Psa 81:9** There shall be no strange god among you; you shall not bow down to a foreign god.

**Psa 81:10** I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.

**Psa 81:11** "But my people did not listen to my voice; Israel would not submit to me.

**Psa 81:12** So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts, to follow their own counsels.

**Psa 81:13** Oh, that my people would listen to me, that Israel would walk in my ways!

**Psa 81:14** I would soon subdue their enemies and turn my hand against their foes.

**Psa 81:15** Those who hate the LORD would cringe toward him, and their fate would last forever.

**Psa 81:16** But he would feed you with the finest of the wheat, and with honey from the rock I would satisfy you."

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### **V1-3**

*What is the psalmist encouraging?*

### **V4-5**

*Why is the psalmist encouraging it?*

### **V6-18**

*Who is speaking?*

*Is He pleased? Explain*

*Does obedience make a difference? Explain*

*Will God make us obey? Explain*

# PSALM 82

## ESV

- Psa 82:1** A Psalm of Asaph. God has taken his place in the divine council; in the midst of the gods he holds judgment:
- Psa 82:2** "How long will you judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked? Selah.
- Psa 82:3** Give justice to the weak and the fatherless; maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute.
- Psa 82:4** Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked."
- Psa 82:5** They have neither knowledge nor understanding, they walk about in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken.
- Psa 82:6** I said, "You are gods, sons of the Most High, all of you;
- Psa 82:7** nevertheless, like men you shall die, and fall like any prince."
- Psa 82:8** Arise, O God, judge the earth; for you shall inherit all the nations!

## The Message

- Psa 82:1** An Asaph psalm. God calls the judges into his courtroom, he puts all the judges in the dock.
- Psa 82:2** "Enough! You've corrupted justice long enough, you've let the wicked get away with murder.
- Psa 82:3** You're here to defend the defenseless, to make sure that underdogs get a fair break;
- Psa 82:4** Your job is to stand up for the powerless, and prosecute all those who exploit them."
- Psa 82:5** Ignorant judges! Head-in-the-sand judges! They haven't a clue to what's going on. And now everything's falling apart, the world's coming unglued.
- Psa 82:6** "I commissioned you judges, each one of you, deputies of the High God,
- Psa 82:7** But you've betrayed your commission and now you're stripped of your rank, busted."
- Psa 82:8** O God, give them their just deserts! You've got the whole world in your hands!

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### *What role is Asaph playing in this psalm?*

### *Who is speaking in this psalm?*

### *Who are the "gods"?*

### *Who is the psalm written for?*

### *Is God pleased? Explain*

### *How are the wicked described?*

### *What is Asaph's request?*

### *What is the lesson to us?*

## PSALM 83

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**Psa 83:1** A Song. A Psalm of Asaph. O God, do not keep silence; do not hold your peace or be still, O God!

**Psa 83:2** For behold, your enemies make an uproar; those who hate you have raised their heads.

**Psa 83:3** They lay crafty plans against your people; they consult together against your treasured ones.

**Psa 83:4** They say, "Come, let us wipe them out as a nation; let the name of Israel be remembered no more!"

**Psa 83:5** For they conspire with one accord; against you they make a covenant--

**Psa 83:6** the tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites, Moab and the Hagrites,

**Psa 83:7** Gebal and Ammon and Amalek, Philistia with the inhabitants of Tyre;

**Psa 83:8** Asshur also has joined them; they are the strong arm of the children of Lot. Selah.

**Psa 83:9** Do to them as you did to Midian, as to Sisera and Jabin at the river Kishon,

**Psa 83:10** who were destroyed at Endor, who became dung for the ground.

**Psa 83:11** Make their nobles like Oreb and Zeeb, all their princes like Zebah and Zalmunna,

**Psa 83:12** who said, "Let us take possession for ourselves of the pastures of God."

**Psa 83:13** O my God, make them like whirling dust, like chaff before the wind.

**Psa 83:14** As fire consumes the forest, as the flame sets the mountains ablaze,

**Psa 83:15** so may you pursue them with your tempest and terrify them with your hurricane!

**Psa 83:16** Fill their faces with shame, that they may seek your name, O LORD.

**Psa 83:17** Let them be put to shame and dismayed forever; let them perish in disgrace,

**Psa 83:18** that they may know that you alone, whose name is the LORD, are the Most High over all the earth.

### Questions to reflect on

#### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*What do you think of this psalm as a song? Are you ready to sing it? Explain*

*What is the prayer request (v1)?*

*What motivates the prayer request (v2-8)?*

*How does the psalmist want God to act (v9-17)? What does he want God to do? Is this loving your enemy?*

*Ultimately, why does the psalmist want God to act (v18)?*

# PSALM 84

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**Psa 84:1** To the choirmaster: according to The Gittith. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah. How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!

**Psa 84:2** My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.

**Psa 84:3** Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.

**Psa 84:4** Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise! Selah.

**Psa 84:5** Blessed are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

**Psa 84:6** As they go through the Valley of Baca they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools.

**Psa 84:7** They go from strength to strength; each one appears before God in Zion.

**Psa 84:8** O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob! Selah.

**Psa 84:9** Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed!

**Psa 84:10** For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

**Psa 84:11** For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor. No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly.

**Psa 84:12** O LORD of hosts, blessed is the one who trusts in you!

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*Who are the Sons of Korah? (v1)*

*How does the psalmist feel about the Lord? (v1-3)*

*According to the psalmist when are we blessed? (v4-7,12)*

*What is the prayer request? (v8)*

*How does the psalmist feel about the house of God? Why does he feel that way? Is the "why" important? Explain (v10-11)*

*What song do we sing that is based on this psalm?*

*Does that song capture the essence of this psalm? Is it true to the psalm? Explain*

*Should it be ? Does it have to? Explain*

# PSALM 85

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**Psa 85:1** To the choirmaster. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah. LORD, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

**Psa 85:2** You forgave the iniquity of your people; you covered all their sin. Selah.

**Psa 85:3** You withdrew all your wrath; you turned from your hot anger.

**Psa 85:4** Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away your indignation toward us!

**Psa 85:5** Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger to all generations?

**Psa 85:6** Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?

**Psa 85:7** Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.

**Psa 85:8** Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly.

**Psa 85:9** Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him, that glory may dwell in our land.

**Psa 85:10** Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other.

**Psa 85:11** Faithfulness springs up from the ground, and righteousness looks down from the sky.

**Psa 85:12** Yes, the LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

**Psa 85:13** Righteousness will go before him and make his footsteps a way.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### **V1-3**

*What did God do?*

### **V4, 7-8**

*What are the prayer requests?*

### **V5-6**

*What are the questions of God?*

### **V8-9**

*Does what we do matter?*

### **V10-12**

*Any thoughts?*

### **V13**

*What do you think this verse means?*

# PSALM 86

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**Psa 86:1** A Prayer of David. Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me, for I am poor and needy.

**Psa 86:2** Preserve my life, for I am godly; save your servant, who trusts in you--you are my God.

**Psa 86:3** Be gracious to me, O Lord, for to you do I cry all the day.

**Psa 86:4** Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.

**Psa 86:5** For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you.

**Psa 86:6** Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer; listen to my plea for grace.

**Psa 86:7** In the day of my trouble I call upon you, for you answer me.

**Psa 86:8** There is none like you among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours.

**Psa 86:9** All the nations you have made shall come and worship before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name.

**Psa 86:10** For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God.

**Psa 86:11** Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk in your truth; unite my heart to fear your name.

**Psa 86:12** I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify your name forever.

**Psa 86:13** For great is your steadfast love toward me; you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.

**Psa 86:14** O God, insolent men have risen up against me; a band of ruthless men seek my life, and they do not set you before them.

**Psa 86:15** But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

**Psa 86:16** Turn to me and be gracious to me; give your strength to your

servant, and save the son of your maidservant.

**Psa 86:17** Show me a sign of your favor, that those who hate me may see and be put to shame because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### *What are David's prayer requests?*

### *How does David see himself and his role?*

### *How does David see God?*

### *What does the contrast of verses 12-13 and 14 tell us about David's faith?*

# PSALM 87

## ESV

**Psa 87:1** A Psalm of the Sons of Korah.

A Song. On the holy mount stands the city he founded;

**Psa 87:2** the LORD loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwelling places of Jacob.

**Psa 87:3** Glorious things of you are spoken, O city of God. Selah.

**Psa 87:4** Among those who know me I mention Rahab and Babylon; behold, Philistia and Tyre, with Cush-- "This one was born there," they say.

**Psa 87:5** And of Zion it shall be said, "This one and that one were born in her"; for the Most High himself will establish her.

**Psa 87:6** The LORD records as he registers the peoples, "This one was born there." Selah.

**Psa 87:7** Singers and dancers alike say, "All my springs are in you."

## Message

**Psa 87:1** A Korah psalm. He founded Zion on the Holy Mountain--

**Psa 87:2** and oh, how GOD loves his home! Loves it far better than all the homes of Jacob put together!

**Psa 87:3** God's hometown--oh! everyone there is talking about you!

**Psa 87:4** I name them off, those among whom I'm famous: Egypt and Babylon, also Philistia, even Tyre, along with Cush. Word's getting around; they point them out: "This one was born again here!"

**Psa 87:5** The word's getting out on Zion: "Men and women, right and left, get born again in her!"

**Psa 87:6** GOD registers their names in his book: "This one, this one, and this one-- born again, right here."

**Psa 87:7** Singers and dancers give credit to Zion: "All my springs are in you!"

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

## From Albert Barnes notes on the Bible

This psalm, like some others, is entitled "a psalm or song;" that is, it so far combined the properties of both a "psalm" and a "song" that it might be called by either name. See the notes at the title to [Psa 65:1-13](#). The phrase "for the sons of Korah" may mean, as in the margin, "of the sons of Korah." See the notes at the title to [Psa 42:1-11](#).

The occasion on which the psalm was composed is unknown. The design of the psalm is obvious. It is to exalt Zion as a place to dwell in, and to state the privileges or advantages of having been born there; the honor of such a birth, and the benefit which would be connected with it, from having been brought early under the influence of the true religion, and from having been trained up amidst its institutions. The practical truth which is suggested by the psalm is the honor and benefit of having been born in a land where the true religion prevails; of having been born in connection with the church; of having been early devoted to God; and of having had the benefits of a religious training. The foundation of what is said in the psalm is the honor which we naturally associate with the idea of birth; birth as connected with a family of distinguished worth, wealth, or rank; birth as connected with a particular country, city, or town.

*What do we make of a psalm like this one? How do we apply it?*

# PSALM 88

**Psa 88:1** A Song. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah. To the choirmaster: according to Mahalath Leannoth. A Maskil of Heman the Ezrahite. O LORD, God of my salvation; I cry out day and night before you.

**Psa 88:2** Let my prayer come before you; incline your ear to my cry!

**Psa 88:3** For my soul is full of troubles, and my life draws near to Sheol.

**Psa 88:4** I am counted among those who go down to the pit; I am a man who has no strength,

**Psa 88:5** like one set loose among the dead, like the slain that lie in the grave, like those whom you remember no more, for they are cut off from your hand.

**Psa 88:6** You have put me in the depths of the pit, in the regions dark and deep.

**Psa 88:7** Your wrath lies heavy upon me, and you overwhelm me with all your waves. Selah.

**Psa 88:8** You have caused my companions to shun me; you have made me a horror to them. I am shut in so that I cannot escape;

**Psa 88:9** my eye grows dim through sorrow. Every day I call upon you, O LORD; I spread out my hands to you.

**Psa 88:10** Do you work wonders for the dead? Do the departed rise up to praise you? Selah.

**Psa 88:11** Is your steadfast love declared in the grave, or your faithfulness in Abaddon?

**Psa 88:12** Are your wonders known in the darkness, or your righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?

**Psa 88:13** But I, O LORD, cry to you; in the morning my prayer comes before you.

**Psa 88:14** O LORD, why do you cast my soul away? Why do you hide your face from me?

**Psa 88:15** Afflicted and close to death from my youth up, I suffer your terrors; I am helpless.

**Psa 88:16** Your wrath has swept over me; your dreadful assaults destroy me.

**Psa 88:17** They surround me like a flood all day long; they close in on me together.

**Psa 88:18** You have caused my beloved and my friend to shun me; my companions have become darkness.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### *How does the psalmist see God?*

### *How can this psalm be a comfort?*

#### **Psalms 88 -**

This psalm is altogether of a mournful and desponding character. The author is a sufferer; he is expecting to die; he fears to die; he longs to live; his mind is overwhelmed with gloom which does not seem to be irradiated by one ray of hope or consolation. It is, in this respect, unlike most of the psalms which relate to sickness, to sorrow, to suffering, for in those psalms generally there springs up, in answer to prayer, a gleam of hope - some cheerful view - some sustaining prospect; so that, though a psalm begins in despondency and gloom, it ends with joy and triumph. Compare, among others, [Psa 6:9-10](#); [Psa 7:17](#); [Psa 13:6](#); [Psa 42:8](#), [Psa 42:11](#); [Psa 56:11-13](#); [Psa 59:16](#); [Psa 69:34](#), [Psa 69:36](#). But in this psalm there is no relief; there is no comfort. As the Book of Psalms was designed to be useful in all ages, and to all classes of people, and as such a state of mind as that described in this psalm might occur again and often - it was proper that such a condition of utter despondency, even in a good man, should be described, in order that others might see that such feelings are not necessarily inconsistent with true religion, and do not prove that even such a sufferer is not a child of God. It is probable that this psalm was designed to illustrate what may occur when disease is such as to produce deep mental darkness and sorrow. And the Book of Psalms would have been incomplete for the use of the church, if there had not been at least one such psalm in the collection.

# PSALM 89

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- Psa 89:1** A Maskil of Ethan the Ezrahite. I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever; with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.
- Psa 89:2** For I said, "Steadfast love will be built up forever; in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness."
- Psa 89:3** You have said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant:
- Psa 89:4** 'I will establish your offspring forever, and build your throne for all generations.'" Selah.
- Psa 89:5** Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD, your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!
- Psa 89:6** For who in the skies can be compared to the LORD? Who among the heavenly beings is like the LORD,
- Psa 89:7** a God greatly to be feared in the council of the holy ones, and awesome above all who are around him?
- Psa 89:8** O LORD God of hosts, who is mighty as you are, O LORD, with your faithfulness all around you?
- Psa 89:9** You rule the raging of the sea; when its waves rise, you still them.
- Psa 89:10** You crushed Rahab like a carcass; you scattered your enemies with your mighty arm.
- Psa 89:11** The heavens are yours; the earth also is yours; the world and all that is in it, you have founded them.
- Psa 89:12** The north and the south, you have created them; Tabor and Hermon joyously praise your name.
- Psa 89:13** You have a mighty arm; strong is your hand, high your right hand.
- Psa 89:14** Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; steadfast love and faithfulness go before you.
- Psa 89:15** Blessed are the people who know the festal shout, who walk, O LORD, in the light of your face,
- Psa 89:16** who exult in your name all the day and in your righteousness are exalted.
- Psa 89:17** For you are the glory of their strength; by your favor our horn is exalted.
- Psa 89:18** For our shield belongs to the LORD, our king to the Holy One of Israel.
- Psa 89:19** Of old you spoke in a vision to your godly one, and said: "I have granted help to one who is mighty; I have exalted one chosen from the people.
- Psa 89:20** I have found David, my servant; with my holy oil I have anointed him,
- Psa 89:21** so that my hand shall be established with him; my arm also shall strengthen him.
- Psa 89:22** The enemy shall not outwit him; the wicked shall not humble him.
- Psa 89:23** I will crush his foes before him and strike down those who hate him.
- Psa 89:24** My faithfulness and my steadfast love shall be with him, and in my name shall his horn be exalted.
- Psa 89:25** I will set his hand on the sea and his right hand on the rivers.
- Psa 89:26** He shall cry to me, 'You are my Father, my God, and the Rock of my salvation.'
- Psa 89:27** And I will make him the firstborn, the highest of the kings of the earth.
- Psa 89:28** My steadfast love I will keep for him forever, and my covenant will stand firm for him.

Psa 89:29 I will establish his offspring forever and his throne as the days of the heavens.

Psa 89:30 If his children forsake my law and do not walk according to my rules,

Psa 89:31 if they violate my statutes and do not keep my commandments,

Psa 89:32 then I will punish their transgression with the rod and their iniquity with stripes,

Psa 89:33 but I will not remove from him my steadfast love or be false to my faithfulness.

Psa 89:34 I will not violate my covenant or alter the word that went forth from my lips.

Psa 89:35 Once for all I have sworn by my holiness; I will not lie to David.

Psa 89:36 His offspring shall endure forever, his throne as long as the sun before me.

Psa 89:37 Like the moon it shall be established forever, a faithful witness in the skies." Selah.

Psa 89:38 But now you have cast off and rejected; you are full of wrath against your anointed.

Psa 89:39 You have renounced the covenant with your servant; you have defiled his crown in the dust.

Psa 89:40 You have breached all his walls; you have laid his strongholds in ruins.

Psa 89:41 All who pass by plunder him; he has become the scorn of his neighbors.

Psa 89:42 You have exalted the right hand of his foes; you have made all his enemies rejoice.

Psa 89:43 You have also turned back the edge of his sword, and you have not made him stand in battle.

Psa 89:44 You have made his splendor to cease and cast his throne to the ground.

Psa 89:45 You have cut short the days of his youth; you have covered him with shame. Selah.

Psa 89:46 How long, O LORD? Will you hide yourself forever? How long will your wrath burn like fire?

Psa 89:47 Remember how short my time is! For what vanity you have created all the children of man!

Psa 89:48 What man can live and never see death? Who can deliver his soul from the power of Sheol? Selah.

Psa 89:49 Lord, where is your steadfast love of old, which by your faithfulness you swore to David?

Psa 89:50 Remember, O Lord, how your servants are mocked, and how I bear in my heart the insults of all the many nations,

Psa 89:51 with which your enemies mock, O LORD, with which they mock the footsteps of your anointed.

Psa 89:52 Blessed be the LORD forever! Amen and Amen.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*Who wrote this psalm?*

*What is the psalmist doing in verses 1-29?*

*What are the dominant themes?*

*How does the focus of the psalm change in verse 30?*

*What is the change in verses 30-37?*

*What is the psalmist doing in verses 38-51?*

*Does the psalmist's ending surprise you?*

*What does it tell us about the psalmist?*

# PSALM 90

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**Psa 90:1** A Prayer of Moses, the man of God. Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

**Psa 90:2** Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

**Psa 90:3** You return man to dust and say, "Return, O children of man!"

**Psa 90:4** For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night.

**Psa 90:5** You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning:

**Psa 90:6** in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.

**Psa 90:7** For we are brought to an end by your anger; by your wrath we are dismayed.

**Psa 90:8** You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.

**Psa 90:9** For all our days pass away under your wrath; we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

**Psa 90:10** The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.

**Psa 90:11** Who considers the power of your anger, and your wrath according to the fear of you?

**Psa 90:12** So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.

**Psa 90:13** Return, O LORD! How long? Have pity on your servants!

**Psa 90:14** Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

**Psa 90:15** Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, and for as many years as we have seen evil.

**Psa 90:16** Let your work be shown to your servants, and your glorious power to their children.

**Psa 90:17** Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands upon us; yes, establish the work of our hands!

## Questions to reflect on

*What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

*Who wrote this psalm? (v1) ☛*

*How does the psalmist see God? (v1-11) ☛*

*Why do you think the psalmist says what he does in verse 7? 🗣️*

*What is true about our sin? (v8) ☛*

*What are the prayer requests of the psalmist? (v12-17) ☛*

*How should they affect our prayers? 🙏*

# PSALM 91

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**Psa 91:1** He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

**Psa 91:2** I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

**Psa 91:3** For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence.

**Psa 91:4** He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.

**Psa 91:5** You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day,

**Psa 91:6** nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday.

**Psa 91:7** A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you.

**Psa 91:8** You will only look with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked.

**Psa 91:9** Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place-- the Most High, who is my refuge--

**Psa 91:10** no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent.

**Psa 91:11** For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

**Psa 91:12** On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.

**Psa 91:13** You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.

**Psa 91:14** "Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my name.

**Psa 91:15** When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in

trouble; I will rescue him and honor him.

**Psa 91:16** With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation."

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

•• *Who is speaking in verses 1-3? 14-16?*

☉ *What does it mean to "dwell in the shelter of the Most High" or to "make the Lord your dwelling place?"*

•• *What is promised if you do?*

☉ *Does that mean nothing bad will ever happen to you? Explain.*

•• *What are God's promises?*

•• *Are they conditional? If so, what are the conditions?*

☩ *What is the response that God honors?*

# PSALM 92

**Psa 92:1** A Psalm. A Song for the Sabbath. It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praises to your name, O Most High;

**Psa 92:2** to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night,

**Psa 92:3** to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre.

**Psa 92:4** For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

**Psa 92:5** How great are your works, O LORD! Your thoughts are very deep!

**Psa 92:6** The stupid man cannot know; the fool cannot understand this:

**Psa 92:7** that though the wicked sprout like grass and all evildoers flourish, they are doomed to destruction forever;

**Psa 92:8** but you, O LORD, are on high forever.

**Psa 92:9** For behold, your enemies, O LORD, for behold, your enemies shall perish; all evildoers shall be scattered.

**Psa 92:10** But you have exalted my horn like that of the wild ox; you have poured over me fresh oil.

**Psa 92:11** My eyes have seen the downfall of my enemies; my ears have heard the doom of my evil assailants.

**Psa 92:12** The righteous flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

**Psa 92:13** They are planted in the house of the LORD; they flourish in the courts of our God.

**Psa 92:14** They still bear fruit in old age; they are ever full of sap and green,

**Psa 92:15** to declare that the LORD is upright; he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### V1-3

- *What content is suggested for our songs?*
- *What is suggested about the use of instruments?*
- ☪ *Has anything happened in the New Testament to change that?*

### V4-5

- *What causes the psalmist to be glad and joyful?*
- ☪ *What should cause us to be glad and joyful?*

### V6-9

- ☪ *What is the point of the psalmist's assertions here?*

### V10-11

- *What is the psalmist's view of success?*
- ☪ *Should ours be any different? Explain*

### V12-15

- *Where do the righteous flourish?*
- ☪ *Why is this significant?*
- *What is characteristic of the righteous?*

# PSALM 93

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**Psa 93:1** The LORD reigns; he is robed in majesty; the LORD is robed; he has put on strength as his belt. Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved.

**Psa 93:2** Your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting.

**Psa 93:3** The floods have lifted up, O LORD, the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their roaring.

**Psa 93:4** Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves of the sea, the LORD on high is mighty!

**Psa 93:5** Your decrees are very trustworthy; holiness befits your house, O LORD, forevermore.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

•• *How does the Psalmist see God?*

♫ *If you were to classify this psalm, which of our current song categories would you put it in? Explain*

♫ *What kind of musical arrangement would be suitable?*

# PSALM 94

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**Psa 94:1** O LORD, God of vengeance,  
O God of vengeance, shine forth!

**Psa 94:2** Rise up, O judge of the earth;  
repay to the proud what they  
deserve!

**Psa 94:3** O LORD, how long shall the  
wicked, how long shall the wicked  
exult?

**Psa 94:4** They pour out their arrogant  
words; all the evildoers boast.

**Psa 94:5** They crush your people, O  
LORD, and afflict your heritage.

**Psa 94:6** They kill the widow and the  
sojourner, and murder the  
fatherless;

**Psa 94:7** and they say, "The LORD does  
not see; the God of Jacob does not  
perceive."

**Psa 94:8** Understand, O dullest of the  
people! Fools, when will you be  
wise?

**Psa 94:9** He who planted the ear, does  
he not hear? He who formed the eye,  
does he not see?

**Psa 94:10** He who disciplines the  
nations, does he not rebuke? He who  
teaches man knowledge--

**Psa 94:11** the LORD--knows the  
thoughts of man, that they are but a  
breath.

**Psa 94:12** Blessed is the man whom you  
discipline, O LORD, and whom you  
teach out of your law,

**Psa 94:13** to give him rest from days of  
trouble, until a pit is dug for the  
wicked.

**Psa 94:14** For the LORD will not forsake  
his people; he will not abandon his  
heritage;

**Psa 94:15** for justice will return to the  
righteous, and all the upright in  
heart will follow it.

**Psa 94:16** Who rises up for me against  
the wicked? Who stands up for me  
against evildoers?

**Psa 94:17** If the LORD had not been my  
help, my soul would soon have lived  
in the land of silence.

**Psa 94:18** When I thought, "My foot  
slips," your steadfast love, O LORD,  
held me up.

**Psa 94:19** When the cares of my heart  
are many, your consolations cheer  
my soul.

**Psa 94:20** Can wicked rulers be allied  
with you, those who frame injustice  
by statute?

**Psa 94:21** They band together against  
the life of the righteous and  
condemn the innocent to death.

**Psa 94:22** But the LORD has become  
my stronghold, and my God the rock  
of my refuge.

**Psa 94:23** He will bring back on them  
their iniquity and wipe them out for  
their wickedness; the LORD our God  
will wipe them out.

## Questions to reflect on

### *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

- *Mark each verse with a ↑ if it is directed to God and a ↔ if it is directed to each other.*
- *Divide the psalm in sections based on who the audience is.*
- 📌 *Write a sentence or bullet that captures the essence of each section (conversation).*

# PSALM 95

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**Psa 95:1** Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

**Psa 95:2** Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

**Psa 95:3** For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

**Psa 95:4** In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also.

**Psa 95:5** The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

**Psa 95:6** Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

**Psa 95:7** For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. Today, if you hear his voice,

**Psa 95:8** do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,

**Psa 95:9** when your fathers put me to the test and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work.

**Psa 95:10** For forty years I loathed that generation and said, "They are a people who go astray in their heart, and they have not known my ways."

**Psa 95:11** Therefore I swore in my wrath, "They shall not enter my rest."

## Questions to reflect on

🎧 *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### V 1-7a

🗨️ *Who is the text directed to?*

🎧 *How does that affect the purpose of the song?*

🗨️ *What are the appropriate actions of the worshipers?*

🗨️ *What are the appropriate attitudes of the worshipers?*

🗨️ *What attributes of God are described here?*

🗨️ *Who is speaking?*

### V 7b-11

🗨️ *What is the issue?*

🗨️ *How does God characterize such a people?*

🎧 *What are the consequences?*

🗨️ *How do we live in light of this psalm?*

# PSALM 96

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**Psa 96:1** Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth!

**Psa 96:2** Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

**Psa 96:3** Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!

**Psa 96:4** For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods.

**Psa 96:5** For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens.

**Psa 96:6** Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

**Psa 96:7** Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!

**Psa 96:8** Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts!

**Psa 96:9** Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth!

**Psa 96:10** Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns! Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity."

**Psa 96:11** Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it;

**Psa 96:12** let the field exult, and everything in it! Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy

**Psa 96:13** before the LORD, for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in his faithfulness.

## Questions to reflect on

☪ *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### V 1-3

☞ *To who should our songs be directed?*

☞ *Who should be singing?*

☞ *What should the songs be about?*

☞ *Why should we sing new songs?*

☪ *Is that the only reason?*

### V 4-6

☞ *How is the Lord contrasted with idols?*

### V 7-13

☞ *What are we commanded to do?*

☞ *Why gladness, rejoicing, exultation, and joy?*

☞ *Who will be doing it?*

☞ *What is the promise?*

☪ *What are the implications?*

# PSALM 97

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**Psa 97:1** The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!

**Psa 97:2** Clouds and thick darkness are all around him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.

**Psa 97:3** Fire goes before him and burns up his adversaries all around.

**Psa 97:4** His lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles.

**Psa 97:5** The mountains melt like wax before the LORD, before the Lord of all the earth.

**Psa 97:6** The heavens proclaim his righteousness, and all the peoples see his glory.

**Psa 97:7** All worshipers of images are put to shame, who make their boast in worthless idols; worship him, all you gods!

**Psa 97:8** Zion hears and is glad, and the daughters of Judah rejoice, because of your judgments, O LORD.

**Psa 97:9** For you, O LORD, are most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.

**Psa 97:10** O you who love the LORD, hate evil! He preserves the lives of his saints; he delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

**Psa 97:11** Light is sown for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart.

**Psa 97:12** Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!

## Questions to reflect on

### 🎧 *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

- *Mark each verse with a → if the psalmist is speaking to others and a ↑ if the psalmist is speaking to God.*
- *What is the psalmist doing in the first seven verses?*
- *How does the psalmist see God?*
- *How does the attention of the psalmist change in verses 8-9?*
- *What is the purpose of his words?*
- *Where does the psalmist's attention shift to in verses 10-12?*
- *What is his counsel?*
- *What is his command?*
- *How should this psalm affect us?*

# PSALM 98

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- Psa 98:1** A Psalm. Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.
- Psa 98:2** The LORD has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.
- Psa 98:3** He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
- Psa 98:4** Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!
- Psa 98:5** Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody!
- Psa 98:6** With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!
- Psa 98:7** Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it!
- Psa 98:8** Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together
- Psa 98:9** before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

## Questions to reflect on

- *Mark each verse with a → if the psalmist is speaking to others and a ↑ if the psalmist is speaking to God.*

### 🕒 *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

- *What is the psalmist directing us to do?*
- *Why is he directing us to do it?*
- 🕒 *Which of our song categories would you put this psalm in? Explain*
- *What makes this psalm different than many of our contemporary worship songs?*

# PSALM 99

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- Psa 99:1** The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!
- Psa 99:2** The LORD is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples.
- Psa 99:3** Let them praise your great and awesome name! Holy is he!
- Psa 99:4** The King in his might loves justice. You have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.
- Psa 99:5** Exalt the LORD our God; worship at his footstool! Holy is he!
- Psa 99:6** Moses and Aaron were among his priests, Samuel also was among those who called upon his name. They called to the LORD, and he answered them.
- Psa 99:7** In the pillar of the cloud he spoke to them; they kept his testimonies and the statute that he gave them.
- Psa 99:8** O LORD our God, you answered them; you were a forgiving God to them, but an avenger of their wrongdoings.
- Psa 99:9** Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy mountain; for the LORD our God is holy!

## Questions to reflect on

- *Mark each verse with a → if the psalmist is speaking to others and a ↑ if the psalmist is speaking to God.*

### 🕒 *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

### V 1-2

- *What is the opening tone of the psalm?*

### V 3

- *What two things is the psalmist doing in this verse?*

### V 4

- 🕒 *Who does "The King" and "You" refer to?*

### V 6-8

- 🕒 *What is the purpose of these verses?*

### V 3, 5, 9

- *What is the appropriate response to God?*
- *Why is it the appropriate response?*

# PSALM 100

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**Psa 100:1** A Psalm for giving thanks.  
Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all  
the earth!

**Psa 100:2** Serve the LORD with  
gladness! Come into his presence  
with singing!

**Psa 100:3** Know that the LORD, he is  
God! It is he who made us, and we  
are his; we are his people, and the  
sheep of his pasture.

**Psa 100:4** Enter his gates with  
thanksgiving, and his courts with  
praise! Give thanks to him; bless his  
name!

**Psa 100:5** For the LORD is good; his  
steadfast love endures forever, and  
his faithfulness to all generations.

## Questions to reflect on

🕊 *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

**V 1**

🗨 *What is the purpose of this psalm?*

**V 1-4**

🗨 *What are the psalmist's instructions? What are we supposed to do (actions and attitudes)?*

**V 3**

🕊 *How would the removal of verse 3 affect the psalm? In other words, why is verse 3 in this psalm?*

**V 5**

🗨 *Why should we do what the psalmist requests?*

🗨 *Does everything have to be going just right to give thanks to the Lord? Explain*

# PSALM 101

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**Psa 101:1** A Psalm of David. I will sing of steadfast love and justice; to you, O LORD, I will make music.

**Psa 101:2** I will ponder the way that is blameless. Oh when will you come to me? I will walk with integrity of heart within my house;

**Psa 101:3** I will not set before my eyes anything that is worthless. I hate the work of those who fall away; it shall not cling to me.

**Psa 101:4** A perverse heart shall be far from me; I will know nothing of evil.

**Psa 101:5** Whoever slanders his neighbor secretly I will destroy. Whoever has a haughty look and an arrogant heart I will not endure.

**Psa 101:6** I will look with favor on the faithful in the land, that they may dwell with me; he who walks in the way that is blameless shall minister to me.

**Psa 101:7** No one who practices deceit shall dwell in my house; no one who utters lies shall continue before my eyes.

**Psa 101:8** Morning by morning I will destroy all the wicked in the land, cutting off all the evildoers from the city of the LORD.

## Questions to reflect on

🎧 *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

🗨️ *What will David sing of?*

🎧 *Which is easier? Explain*

🗨️ *Who is this psalm for?*

🗨️ *What does David ponder? What personal commitments or actions does David want to embrace?*

🗨️ *What does David hate, not endure, and want to destroy?*

🗨️ *What does David favor? Why?*

🗨️ *What do you spend your time pondering? How can you learn from David?*

# PSALM 102

**Psa 102:1** A Prayer of one afflicted, when he is faint and pours out his complaint before the LORD. Hear my prayer, O LORD; let my cry come to you!

**Psa 102:2** Do not hide your face from me in the day of my distress! Incline your ear to me; answer me speedily in the day when I call!

**Psa 102:3** For my days pass away like smoke, and my bones burn like a furnace.

**Psa 102:4** My heart is struck down like grass and has withered; I forget to eat my bread.

**Psa 102:5** Because of my loud groaning my bones cling to my flesh.

**Psa 102:6** I am like a desert owl of the wilderness, like an owl of the waste places;

**Psa 102:7** I lie awake; I am like a lonely sparrow on the housetop.

**Psa 102:8** All the day my enemies taunt me; those who deride me use my name for a curse.

**Psa 102:9** For I eat ashes like bread and mingle tears with my drink,

**Psa 102:10** because of your indignation and anger; for you have taken me up and thrown me down.

**Psa 102:11** My days are like an evening shadow; I wither away like grass.

**Psa 102:12** But you, O LORD, are enthroned forever; you are remembered throughout all generations.

**Psa 102:13** You will arise and have pity on Zion; it is the time to favor her; the appointed time has come.

**Psa 102:14** For your servants hold her stones dear and have pity on her dust.

**Psa 102:15** Nations will fear the name of the LORD, and all the kings of the earth will fear your glory.

**Psa 102:16** For the LORD builds up Zion; he appears in his glory;

**Psa 102:17** he regards the prayer of the destitute and does not despise their prayer.

**Psa 102:18** Let this be recorded for a generation to come, so that a people yet to be created may praise the LORD:

**Psa 102:19** that he looked down from his holy height; from heaven the LORD looked at the earth,

**Psa 102:20** to hear the groans of the prisoners, to set free those who were doomed to die,

**Psa 102:21** that they may declare in Zion the name of the LORD, and in Jerusalem his praise,

**Psa 102:22** when peoples gather together, and kingdoms, to worship the LORD.

**Psa 102:23** He has broken my strength in midcourse; he has shortened my days.

**Psa 102:24** "O my God," I say, "take me not away in the midst of my days-- you whose years endure throughout all generations!"

**Psa 102:25** Of old you laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands.

**Psa 102:26** They will perish, but you will remain; they will all wear out like a garment. You will change them like a robe, and they will pass away,

**Psa 102:27** but you are the same, and your years have no end.

**Psa 102:28** The children of your servants shall dwell secure; their offspring shall be established before you.

## Questions to reflect on

☪ *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

**V 1-2**

☪ *What does the psalmist want from the Lord?*

**V 3-9, 11**

☪ *How does the psalmist feel about life? What is the tone?*

**V 10, 23**

☪ *According to the psalmist, who is at fault? Who does he tell?*

☪ *Is that perspective correct? Explain*

☪ *Why is it included here?*

**V 12-15**

☪ *How does the tone and theme change?*

**V 16-22**

☪ *How does the psalmist see God?*

☪ *Who are these words for?*

**V 24-28**

☪ *How does the psalmist see God?*

☪ *How do you reconcile verses 1-11 with verses 22-28?*

# PSALM 103

**Psa 103:1** Of David. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

**Psa 103:2** Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits,

**Psa 103:3** who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,

**Psa 103:4** who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

**Psa 103:5** who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

**Psa 103:6** The LORD works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed.

**Psa 103:7** He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel.

**Psa 103:8** The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**Psa 103:9** He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever.

**Psa 103:10** He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

**Psa 103:11** For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

**Psa 103:12** as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

**Psa 103:13** As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.

**Psa 103:14** For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

**Psa 103:15** As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field;

**Psa 103:16** for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more.

**Psa 103:17** But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children,

**Psa 103:18** to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments.

**Psa 103:19** The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.

**Psa 103:20** Bless the LORD, O you his angels, you mighty ones who do his word, obeying the voice of his word!

**Psa 103:21** Bless the LORD, all his hosts, his ministers, who do his will!

**Psa 103:22** Bless the LORD, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul!

## Questions to reflect on

🕒 *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

**V 1-6**

🗨️ *What is the psalmist trying to get the people to do?*

🗨️ *How does he do it?*

**V 7**

🕒 *What event does this verse reference?*

**V 8-13, 17-19**

🗨️ *What is God like according to the psalmist?*

**V 14-16**

🗨️ *What are we like?*

**V 11-18**

🕒 *What does it mean to "fear him?"*

🗨️ *What comes with fearing him?*

**V 20-22**

🗨️ *Who is the psalmist directing his attention to and what is his charge?*

# PSALM 104

**Psa 104:1** Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, you are very great! You are clothed with splendor and majesty,  
**Psa 104:2** covering yourself with light as with a garment, stretching out the heavens like a tent.  
**Psa 104:3** He lays the beams of his chambers on the waters; he makes the clouds his chariot; he rides on the wings of the wind;  
**Psa 104:4** he makes his messengers winds, his ministers a flaming fire.  
**Psa 104:5** He set the earth on its foundations, so that it should never be moved.  
**Psa 104:6** You covered it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains.  
**Psa 104:7** At your rebuke they fled; at the sound of your thunder they took to flight.  
**Psa 104:8** The mountains rose, the valleys sank down to the place that you appointed for them.  
**Psa 104:9** You set a boundary that they may not pass, so that they might not again cover the earth.  
**Psa 104:10** You make springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills;  
**Psa 104:11** they give drink to every beast of the field; the wild donkeys quench their thirst.  
**Psa 104:12** Beside them the birds of the heavens dwell; they sing among the branches.  
**Psa 104:13** From your lofty abode you water the mountains; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.  
**Psa 104:14** You cause the grass to grow for the livestock and plants for man to cultivate, that he may bring forth food from the earth  
**Psa 104:15** and wine to gladden the heart of man, oil to make his face shine and bread to strengthen man's heart.  
**Psa 104:16** The trees of the LORD are watered abundantly, the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.  
**Psa 104:17** In them the birds build their nests; the stork has her home in the fir trees.  
**Psa 104:18** The high mountains are for the wild goats; the rocks are a refuge for the rock badgers.  
**Psa 104:19** He made the moon to mark the seasons; the sun knows its time for setting.  
**Psa 104:20** You make darkness, and it is night, when all the beasts of the forest creep about.  
**Psa 104:21** The young lions roar for their prey, seeking their food from God.  
**Psa 104:22** When the sun rises, they steal away and lie down in their dens.  
**Psa 104:23** Man goes out to his work and to his labor until the evening.

**Psa 104:24** O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.  
**Psa 104:25** Here is the sea, great and wide, which teems with creatures innumerable, living things both small and great.  
**Psa 104:26** There go the ships, and Leviathan, which you formed to play in it.  
**Psa 104:27** These all look to you, to give them their food in due season.  
**Psa 104:28** When you give it to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.  
**Psa 104:29** When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.  
**Psa 104:30** When you send forth your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the ground.  
**Psa 104:31** May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in his works,  
**Psa 104:32** who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke!  
**Psa 104:33** I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being.  
**Psa 104:34** May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the LORD.  
**Psa 104:35** Let sinners be consumed from the earth, and let the wicked be no more! Bless the LORD, O my soul! Praise the LORD!

## Questions to reflect on

🕒 *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

🕒 *What song category would you put this psalm in?*

🕒 *What is the psalmist's view of God?*

🕒 *What is the psalmist's desire?*

# PSALM 105

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- Psa 105:1** Oh give thanks to the LORD;  
call upon his name; make known his  
deeds among the peoples!
- Psa 105:2** Sing to him, sing praises to  
him; tell of all his wondrous works!
- Psa 105:3** Glory in his holy name; let the  
hearts of those who seek the LORD  
rejoice!
- Psa 105:4** Seek the LORD and his  
strength; seek his presence  
continually!
- Psa 105:5** Remember the wondrous  
works that he has done, his miracles,  
and the judgments he uttered,
- Psa 105:6** O offspring of Abraham, his  
servant, children of Jacob, his  
chosen ones!
- Psa 105:7** He is the LORD our God; his  
judgments are in all the earth.
- Psa 105:8** He remembers his covenant  
forever, the word that he  
commanded, for a thousand  
generations,
- Psa 105:9** the covenant that he made  
with Abraham, his sworn promise to  
Isaac,
- Psa 105:10** which he confirmed to Jacob  
as a statute, to Israel as an  
everlasting covenant,
- Psa 105:11** saying, "To you I will give the  
land of Canaan as your portion for  
an inheritance."
- Psa 105:12** When they were few in  
number, of little account, and  
sojourners in it,
- Psa 105:13** wandering from nation to  
nation, from one kingdom to  
another people,
- Psa 105:14** he allowed no one to oppress  
them; he rebuked kings on their  
account,
- Psa 105:15** saying, "Touch not my  
anointed ones, do my prophets no  
harm!"
- Psa 105:16** When he summoned a  
famine on the land and broke all  
supply of bread,
- Psa 105:17** he had sent a man ahead of  
them, Joseph, who was sold as a  
slave.
- Psa 105:18** His feet were hurt with  
fetters; his neck was put in a collar of  
iron;
- Psa 105:19** until what he had said came  
to pass, the word of the LORD tested  
him.
- Psa 105:20** The king sent and released  
him; the ruler of the peoples set him  
free;
- Psa 105:21** he made him lord of his  
house and ruler of all his  
possessions,
- Psa 105:22** to bind his princes at his  
pleasure and to teach his elders  
wisdom.
- Psa 105:23** Then Israel came to Egypt;  
Jacob sojourned in the land of Ham.
- Psa 105:24** And the LORD made his  
people very fruitful and made them  
stronger than their foes.
- Psa 105:25** He turned their hearts to  
hate his people, to deal craftily with  
his servants.
- Psa 105:26** He sent Moses, his servant,  
and Aaron, whom he had chosen.
- Psa 105:27** They performed his signs  
among them and miracles in the  
land of Ham.
- Psa 105:28** He sent darkness, and made  
the land dark; they did not rebel  
against his words.
- Psa 105:29** He turned their waters into  
blood and caused their fish to die.
- Psa 105:30** Their land swarmed with  
frogs, even in the chambers of their  
kings.
- Psa 105:31** He spoke, and there came  
swarms of flies, and gnats  
throughout their country.

Psa 105:32 He gave them hail for rain,  
and fiery lightning bolts through  
their land.

Psa 105:33 He struck down their vines  
and fig trees, and shattered the trees  
of their country.

Psa 105:34 He spoke, and the locusts  
came, young locusts without  
number,

Psa 105:35 which devoured all the  
vegetation in their land and ate up  
the fruit of their ground.

Psa 105:36 He struck down all the  
firstborn in their land, the firstfruits  
of all their strength.

Psa 105:37 Then he brought out Israel  
with silver and gold, and there was  
none among his tribes who  
stumbled.

Psa 105:38 Egypt was glad when they  
departed, for dread of them had  
fallen upon it.

Psa 105:39 He spread a cloud for a  
covering, and fire to give light by  
night.

Psa 105:40 They asked, and he brought  
quail, and gave them bread from  
heaven in abundance.

Psa 105:41 He opened the rock, and  
water gushed out; it flowed through  
the desert like a river.

Psa 105:42 For he remembered his holy  
promise, and Abraham, his servant.

Psa 105:43 So he brought his people out  
with joy, his chosen ones with  
singing.

Psa 105:44 And he gave them the lands  
of the nations, and they took  
possession of the fruit of the peoples'  
toil,

Psa 105:45 that they might keep his  
statutes and observe his laws. Praise  
the LORD!

## Questions to reflect on

🕒 *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

🗨️ *If you were to categorize the psalm with our song categories which category would you choose? Explain*

V1-5

🗨️ *What is the psalmist telling us to do?*

🗨️ *How are we to do it?*

V6-45

🗨️ *Does the psalmist follow his own direction? Explain*

🗨️ *Why did God give Israel the land?*

🕒 *What pleases God?*

# PSALM 106

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- Psa 106:1** Praise the LORD! Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!
- Psa 106:2** Who can utter the mighty deeds of the LORD, or declare all his praise?
- Psa 106:3** Blessed are they who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times!
- Psa 106:4** Remember me, O LORD, when you show favor to your people; help me when you save them,
- Psa 106:5** that I may look upon the prosperity of your chosen ones, that I may rejoice in the gladness of your nation, that I may glory with your inheritance.
- Psa 106:6** Both we and our fathers have sinned; we have committed iniquity; we have done wickedness.
- Psa 106:7** Our fathers, when they were in Egypt, did not consider your wondrous works; they did not remember the abundance of your steadfast love, but rebelled by the Sea, at the Red Sea.
- Psa 106:8** Yet he saved them for his name's sake, that he might make known his mighty power.
- Psa 106:9** He rebuked the Red Sea, and it became dry, and he led them through the deep as through a desert.
- Psa 106:10** So he saved them from the hand of the foe and redeemed them from the power of the enemy.
- Psa 106:11** And the waters covered their adversaries; not one of them was left.
- Psa 106:12** Then they believed his words; they sang his praise.
- Psa 106:13** But they soon forgot his works; they did not wait for his counsel.
- Psa 106:14** But they had a wanton craving in the wilderness, and put God to the test in the desert;
- Psa 106:15** he gave them what they asked, but sent a wasting disease among them.
- Psa 106:16** When men in the camp were jealous of Moses and Aaron, the holy one of the LORD,
- Psa 106:17** the earth opened and swallowed up Dathan, and covered the company of Abiram.
- Psa 106:18** Fire also broke out in their company; the flame burned up the wicked.
- Psa 106:19** They made a calf in Horeb and worshiped a metal image.
- Psa 106:20** They exchanged the glory of God for the image of an ox that eats grass.
- Psa 106:21** They forgot God, their Savior, who had done great things in Egypt,
- Psa 106:22** wondrous works in the land of Ham, and awesome deeds by the Red Sea.
- Psa 106:23** Therefore he said he would destroy them-- had not Moses, his chosen one, stood in the breach before him, to turn away his wrath from destroying them.
- Psa 106:24** Then they despised the pleasant land, having no faith in his promise.
- Psa 106:25** They murmured in their tents, and did not obey the voice of the LORD.
- Psa 106:26** Therefore he raised his hand and swore to them that he would make them fall in the wilderness,
- Psa 106:27** and would make their offspring fall among the nations, scattering them among the lands.
- Psa 106:28** Then they yoked themselves to the Baal of Peor, and ate sacrifices offered to the dead;

Psa 106:29 they provoked the LORD to anger with their deeds, and a plague broke out among them.

Psa 106:30 Then Phinehas stood up and intervened, and the plague was stayed.

Psa 106:31 And that was counted to him as righteousness from generation to generation forever.

Psa 106:32 They angered him at the waters of Meribah, and it went ill with Moses on their account,

Psa 106:33 for they made his spirit bitter, and he spoke rashly with his lips.

Psa 106:34 They did not destroy the peoples, as the LORD commanded them,

Psa 106:35 but they mixed with the nations and learned to do as they did.

Psa 106:36 They served their idols, which became a snare to them.

Psa 106:37 They sacrificed their sons and their daughters to the demons;

Psa 106:38 they poured out innocent blood, the blood of their sons and daughters, whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan, and the land was polluted with blood.

Psa 106:39 Thus they became unclean by their acts, and played the whore in their deeds.

Psa 106:40 Then the anger of the LORD was kindled against his people, and he abhorred his heritage;

Psa 106:41 he gave them into the hand of the nations, so that those who hated them ruled over them.

Psa 106:42 Their enemies oppressed them, and they were brought into subjection under their power.

Psa 106:43 Many times he delivered them, but they were rebellious in their purposes and were brought low through their iniquity.

Psa 106:44 Nevertheless, he looked upon their distress, when he heard their cry.

Psa 106:45 For their sake he remembered his covenant, and

relented according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

Psa 106:46 He caused them to be pitied by all those who held them captive.

Psa 106:47 Save us, O LORD our God, and gather us from among the nations, that we may give thanks to your holy name and glory in your praise.

Psa 106:48 Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting! And let all the people say, "Amen!" Praise the LORD!

### Questions to reflect on

🕯 *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

🕯 *How would you describe the flow of this psalm?*

🕯 *What stands out the most to you about the psalmist?*

🕯 *What stands out the most to you about the people?*

🕯 *What stands out the most to you about God?*

# PSALM 107

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- Psa 107:1** Oh give thanks to the LORD,  
for he is good, for his steadfast love  
endures forever!
- Psa 107:2** Let the redeemed of the  
LORD say so, whom he has  
redeemed from trouble
- Psa 107:3** and gathered in from the  
lands, from the east and from the  
west, from the north and from the  
south.
- Psa 107:4** Some wandered in desert  
wastes, finding no way to a city to  
dwell in;
- Psa 107:5** hungry and thirsty, their soul  
fainted within them.
- Psa 107:6** Then they cried to the LORD  
in their trouble, and he delivered  
them from their distress.
- Psa 107:7** He led them by a straight way  
till they reached a city to dwell in.
- Psa 107:8** Let them thank the LORD for  
his steadfast love, for his wondrous  
works to the children of men!
- Psa 107:9** For he satisfies the longing  
soul, and the hungry soul he fills  
with good things.
- Psa 107:10** Some sat in darkness and in  
the shadow of death, prisoners in  
affliction and in irons,
- Psa 107:11** for they had rebelled against  
the words of God, and spurned the  
counsel of the Most High.
- Psa 107:12** So he bowed their hearts  
down with hard labor; they fell  
down, with none to help.
- Psa 107:13** Then they cried to the LORD  
in their trouble, and he delivered  
them from their distress.
- Psa 107:14** He brought them out of  
darkness and the shadow of death,  
and burst their bonds apart.
- Psa 107:15** Let them thank the LORD  
for his steadfast love, for his  
wondrous works to the children of  
men!
- Psa 107:16** For he shatters the doors of  
bronze and cuts in two the bars of  
iron.
- Psa 107:17** Some were fools through  
their sinful ways, and because of  
their iniquities suffered affliction;
- Psa 107:18** they loathed any kind of  
food, and they drew near to the gates  
of death.
- Psa 107:19** Then they cried to the LORD  
in their trouble, and he delivered  
them from their distress.
- Psa 107:20** He sent out his word and  
healed them, and delivered them  
from their destruction.
- Psa 107:21** Let them thank the LORD  
for his steadfast love, for his  
wondrous works to the children of  
men!
- Psa 107:22** And let them offer sacrifices  
of thanksgiving, and tell of his deeds  
in songs of joy!
- Psa 107:23** Some went down to the sea  
in ships, doing business on the great  
waters;
- Psa 107:24** they saw the deeds of the  
LORD, his wondrous works in the  
deep.
- Psa 107:25** For he commanded and  
raised the stormy wind, which lifted  
up the waves of the sea.
- Psa 107:26** They mounted up to heaven;  
they went down to the depths; their  
courage melted away in their evil  
plight;
- Psa 107:27** they reeled and staggered  
like drunken men and were at their  
wits' end.
- Psa 107:28** Then they cried to the LORD  
in their trouble, and he delivered  
them from their distress.
- Psa 107:29** He made the storm be still,  
and the waves of the sea were  
hushed.

Psa 107:30 Then they were glad that the waters were quiet, and he brought them to their desired haven.

Psa 107:31 Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of men!

Psa 107:32 Let them extol him in the congregation of the people, and praise him in the assembly of the elders.

Psa 107:33 He turns rivers into a desert, springs of water into thirsty ground,

Psa 107:34 a fruitful land into a salty waste, because of the evil of its inhabitants.

Psa 107:35 He turns a desert into pools of water, a parched land into springs of water.

Psa 107:36 And there he lets the hungry dwell, and they establish a city to live in;

Psa 107:37 they sow fields and plant vineyards and get a fruitful yield.

Psa 107:38 By his blessing they multiply greatly, and he does not let their livestock diminish.

Psa 107:39 When they are diminished and brought low through oppression, evil, and sorrow,

Psa 107:40 he pours contempt on princes and makes them wander in trackless wastes;

Psa 107:41 but he raises up the needy out of affliction and makes their families like flocks.

Psa 107:42 The upright see it and are glad, and all wickedness shuts its mouth.

Psa 107:43 Whoever is wise, let him attend to these things; let them consider the steadfast love of the LORD.

## Questions to reflect on

🕒 *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

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# PSALM 108

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**Psa 108:1** A Song. A Psalm of David.  
My heart is steadfast, O God! I will sing and make melody with all my being!

**Psa 108:2** Awake, O harp and lyre! I will awake the dawn!

**Psa 108:3** I will give thanks to you, O LORD, among the peoples; I will sing praises to you among the nations.

**Psa 108:4** For your steadfast love is great above the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.

**Psa 108:5** Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let your glory be over all the earth!

**Psa 108:6** That your beloved ones may be delivered, give salvation by your right hand and answer me!

**Psa 108:7** God has promised in his holiness: "With exultation I will divide up Shechem and portion out the Valley of Succoth.

**Psa 108:8** Gilead is mine; Manasseh is mine; Ephraim is my helmet, Judah my scepter.

**Psa 108:9** Moab is my washbasin; upon Edom I cast my shoe; over Philistia I shout in triumph."

**Psa 108:10** Who will bring me to the fortified city? Who will lead me to Edom?

**Psa 108:11** Have you not rejected us, O God? You do not go out, O God, with our armies.

**Psa 108:12** Oh grant us help against the foe, for vain is the salvation of man!

**Psa 108:13** With God we shall do valiantly; it is he who will tread down our foes.

## Questions to reflect on

🎵 *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

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# PSALM 109

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- Psa 109:1** To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David. Be not silent, O God of my praise!
- Psa 109:2** For wicked and deceitful mouths are opened against me, speaking against me with lying tongues.
- Psa 109:3** They encircle me with words of hate, and attack me without cause.
- Psa 109:4** In return for my love they accuse me, but I give myself to prayer.
- Psa 109:5** So they reward me evil for good, and hatred for my love.
- Psa 109:6** Appoint a wicked man against him; let an accuser stand at his right hand.
- Psa 109:7** When he is tried, let him come forth guilty; let his prayer be counted as sin!
- Psa 109:8** May his days be few; may another take his office!
- Psa 109:9** May his children be fatherless and his wife a widow!
- Psa 109:10** May his children wander about and beg, seeking food far from the ruins they inhabit!
- Psa 109:11** May the creditor seize all that he has; may strangers plunder the fruits of his toil!
- Psa 109:12** Let there be none to extend kindness to him, nor any to pity his fatherless children!
- Psa 109:13** May his posterity be cut off; may his name be blotted out in the second generation!
- Psa 109:14** May the iniquity of his fathers be remembered before the LORD, and let not the sin of his mother be blotted out!
- Psa 109:15** Let them be before the LORD continually, that he may cut off the memory of them from the earth!
- Psa 109:16** For he did not remember to show kindness, but pursued the poor and needy and the brokenhearted, to put them to death.
- Psa 109:17** He loved to curse; let curses come upon him! He did not delight in blessing; may it be far from him!
- Psa 109:18** He clothed himself with cursing as his coat; may it soak into his body like water, like oil into his bones!
- Psa 109:19** May it be like a garment that he wraps around him, like a belt that he puts on every day!
- Psa 109:20** May this be the reward of my accusers from the LORD, of those who speak evil against my life!
- Psa 109:21** But you, O GOD my Lord, deal on my behalf for your name's sake; because your steadfast love is good, deliver me!
- Psa 109:22** For I am poor and needy, and my heart is stricken within me.
- Psa 109:23** I am gone like a shadow at evening; I am shaken off like a locust.
- Psa 109:24** My knees are weak through fasting; my body has become gaunt, with no fat.
- Psa 109:25** I am an object of scorn to my accusers; when they see me, they wag their heads.
- Psa 109:26** Help me, O LORD my God! Save me according to your steadfast love!
- Psa 109:27** Let them know that this is your hand; you, O LORD, have done it!
- Psa 109:28** Let them curse, but you will bless! They arise and are put to shame, but your servant will be glad!
- Psa 109:29** May my accusers be clothed with dishonor; may they be wrapped in their own shame as in a cloak!
- Psa 109:30** With my mouth I will give great thanks to the LORD; I will praise him in the midst of the throng.

Psa 109:31 For he stands at the right  
hand of the needy, to save him from  
those who condemn his soul to  
death.

## Questions to reflect on

🎵 *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

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# PSALM 110

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**Psa 110:1** A Psalm of David. The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."

**Psa 110:2** The LORD sends forth from Zion your mighty scepter. Rule in the midst of your enemies!

**Psa 110:3** Your people will offer themselves freely on the day of your power, in holy garments; from the womb of the morning, the dew of your youth will be yours.

**Psa 110:4** The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind, "You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek."

**Psa 110:5** The Lord is at your right hand; he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath.

**Psa 110:6** He will execute judgment among the nations, filling them with corpses; he will shatter chiefs over the wide earth.

**Psa 110:7** He will drink from the brook by the way; therefore he will lift up his head.

## Questions to reflect on

🎧 *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

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# PSALM 111

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**Psa 111:1** Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

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**Psa 111:2** Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.

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**Psa 111:3** Full of splendor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.

**Psa 111:4** He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and merciful.

**Psa 111:5** He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever.

**Psa 111:6** He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the inheritance of the nations.

**Psa 111:7** The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy;

**Psa 111:8** they are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

**Psa 111:9** He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name!

**Psa 111:10** The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!

## Questions to reflect on

🕒 *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

# PSALM 112

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- Psa 112:1** Praise the LORD! Blessed is the man who fears the LORD, who greatly delights in his commandments!      ♪ ?
- Psa 112:2** His offspring will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.      🎵 ?
- Psa 112:3** Wealth and riches are in his house, and his righteousness endures forever.      🎵 ?
- Psa 112:4** Light dawns in the darkness for the upright; he is gracious, merciful, and righteous.
- Psa 112:5** It is well with the man who deals generously and lends; who conducts his affairs with justice.
- Psa 112:6** For the righteous will never be moved; he will be remembered forever.
- Psa 112:7** He is not afraid of bad news; his heart is firm, trusting in the LORD.
- Psa 112:8** His heart is steady; he will not be afraid, until he looks in triumph on his adversaries.
- Psa 112:9** He has distributed freely; he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever; his horn is exalted in honor.
- Psa 112:10** The wicked man sees it and is angry; he gnashes his teeth and melts away; the desire of the wicked will perish!

## Questions to reflect on

🎵 *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

# PSALM 113

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**Psa 113:1** Praise the LORD! Praise, O servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD!

**Psa 113:2** Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and forevermore!

**Psa 113:3** From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the LORD is to be praised!

**Psa 113:4** The LORD is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens!

**Psa 113:5** Who is like the LORD our God, who is seated on high,

**Psa 113:6** who looks far down on the heavens and the earth?

**Psa 113:7** He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap,

**Psa 113:8** to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people.

**Psa 113:9** He gives the barren woman a home, making her the joyous mother of children. Praise the LORD!

## Questions to reflect on

🎵 *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

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# PSALM 114

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**Psa 114:1** When Israel went out from  
Egypt, the house of Jacob from a  
people of strange language,  
**Psa 114:2** Judah became his sanctuary,  
Israel his dominion.  
**Psa 114:3** The sea looked and fled;  
Jordan turned back.  
**Psa 114:4** The mountains skipped like  
rams, the hills like lambs.  
**Psa 114:5** What ails you, O sea, that you  
flee? O Jordan, that you turn back?  
**Psa 114:6** O mountains, that you skip  
like rams? O hills, like lambs?  
**Psa 114:7** Tremble, O earth, at the  
presence of the Lord, at the presence  
of the God of Jacob,  
**Psa 114:8** who turns the rock into a pool  
of water, the flint into a spring of  
water.

## Questions to reflect on

🎵 *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

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# PSALM 115

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**Psa 115:1** Not to us, O LORD, not to us,  
but to your name give glory, for the  
sake of your steadfast love and your  
faithfulness!

Psa 115:2 Why should the nations say,  
"Where is their God?"

Psa 115:3 Our God is in the heavens; he  
does all that he pleases.

Psa 115:4 Their idols are silver and gold,  
the work of human hands.

Psa 115:5 They have mouths, but do not  
speak; eyes, but do not see.

Psa 115:6 They have ears, but do not  
hear; noses, but do not smell.

Psa 115:7 They have hands, but do not  
feel; feet, but do not walk; and they  
do not make a sound in their throat.

Psa 115:8 Those who make them  
become like them; so do all who  
trust in them.

Psa 115:9 O Israel, trust in the LORD!  
He is their help and their shield.

Psa 115:10 O house of Aaron, trust in  
the LORD! He is their help and their  
shield.

Psa 115:11 You who fear the LORD, trust  
in the LORD! He is their help and  
their shield.

Psa 115:12 The LORD has remembered  
us; he will bless us; he will bless the  
house of Israel; he will bless the  
house of Aaron;

Psa 115:13 he will bless those who fear  
the LORD, both the small and the  
great.

Psa 115:14 May the LORD give you  
increase, you and your children!

Psa 115:15 May you be blessed by the  
LORD, who made heaven and earth!

Psa 115:16 The heavens are the LORD's  
heavens, but the earth he has given  
to the children of man.

Psa 115:17 The dead do not praise the  
LORD, nor do any who go down into  
silence.

Psa 115:18 But we will bless the LORD  
from this time forth and  
forevermore. Praise the LORD!

## Questions to reflect on

### 🕒 What kind of psalm is this?

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

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# PSALM 116

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**Psa 116:1** I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy.

**Psa 116:2** Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

**Psa 116:3** The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.

**Psa 116:4** Then I called on the name of the LORD: "O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!"

**Psa 116:5** Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful.

**Psa 116:6** The LORD preserves the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me.

**Psa 116:7** Return, O my soul, to your rest; for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.

**Psa 116:8** For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling;

**Psa 116:9** I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living.

**Psa 116:10** I believed, even when I spoke, "I am greatly afflicted";

**Psa 116:11** I said in my alarm, "All mankind are liars."

**Psa 116:12** What shall I render to the LORD for all his benefits to me?

**Psa 116:13** I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD,

**Psa 116:14** I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people.

**Psa 116:15** Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.

**Psa 116:16** O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have loosed my bonds.

**Psa 116:17** I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the LORD.

**Psa 116:18** I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people,

**Psa 116:19** in the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!

## Questions to reflect on

🎧 *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

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# PSALM 117

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**Psa 117:1** Praise the LORD, all nations!  
Extol him, all peoples!

**Psa 117:2** For great is his steadfast love  
toward us, and the faithfulness of the  
LORD endures forever. Praise the  
LORD!

## Questions to reflect on

🎵 *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

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# PSALM 118

**Psa 118:1** Oh give thanks to the LORD,  
for he is good; for his steadfast love  
endures forever!

**Psa 118:2** Let Israel say, "His steadfast  
love endures forever."

**Psa 118:3** Let the house of Aaron say,  
"His steadfast love endures forever."

**Psa 118:4** Let those who fear the LORD  
say, "His steadfast love endures  
forever."

**Psa 118:5** Out of my distress I called on  
the LORD; the LORD answered me  
and set me free.

**Psa 118:6** The LORD is on my side; I  
will not fear. What can man do to  
me?

**Psa 118:7** The LORD is on my side as  
my helper; I shall look in triumph on  
those who hate me.

**Psa 118:8** It is better to take refuge in  
the LORD than to trust in man.

**Psa 118:9** It is better to take refuge in  
the LORD than to trust in princes.

**Psa 118:10** All nations surrounded me;  
in the name of the LORD I cut them  
off!

**Psa 118:11** They surrounded me,  
surrounded me on every side; in the  
name of the LORD I cut them off!

**Psa 118:12** They surrounded me like  
bees; they went out like a fire among  
thorns; in the name of the LORD I  
cut them off!

**Psa 118:13** I was pushed hard, so that I  
was falling, but the LORD helped  
me.

**Psa 118:14** The LORD is my strength  
and my song; he has become my  
salvation.

**Psa 118:15** Glad songs of salvation are in  
the tents of the righteous: "The right  
hand of the LORD does valiantly,

**Psa 118:16** the right hand of the LORD  
exalts, the right hand of the LORD  
does valiantly!"

**Psa 118:17** I shall not die, but I shall  
live, and recount the deeds of the  
LORD.

**Psa 118:18** The LORD has disciplined  
me severely, but he has not given me  
over to death.

**Psa 118:19** Open to me the gates of  
righteousness, that I may enter  
through them and give thanks to the  
LORD.

**Psa 118:20** This is the gate of the LORD;  
the righteous shall enter through it.

**Psa 118:21** I thank you that you have  
answered me and have become my  
salvation.

**Psa 118:22** The stone that the builders  
rejected has become the  
cornerstone.

**Psa 118:23** This is the LORD's doing; it  
is marvelous in our eyes.

**Psa 118:24** This is the day that the  
LORD has made; let us rejoice and  
be glad in it.

**Psa 118:25** Save us, we pray, O LORD! O  
LORD, we pray, give us success!

**Psa 118:26** Blessed is he who comes in  
the name of the LORD! We bless you  
from the house of the LORD.

**Psa 118:27** The LORD is God, and he  
has made his light to shine upon us.  
Bind the festal sacrifice with cords,  
up to the horns of the altar!

**Psa 118:28** You are my God, and I will  
give thanks to you; you are my God;  
I will extol you.

**Psa 118:29** Oh give thanks to the LORD,  
for he is good; for his steadfast love  
endures forever!

## Questions to reflect on

☞ *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for  
God's saving help, community prayer, community  
praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence*

*in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

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# PSALM X

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## Questions to reflect on

🎵 *What kind of psalm is this?*

*Categories: individual prayer, individual praise for God's saving help, community prayer, community praise for God's saving help, confession of confidence in the Lord, song in praise of God's majesty and virtues, song celebrating God's universal reign, song of Zion the city of God, royal psalm by for or concerning the king the Lord's anointed, pilgrimage song, liturgical song, instructional song.*

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