

LIFE GROUP AND PERSONAL STUDY QUESTIONS

Psalm 73 and What Worship Does For Us

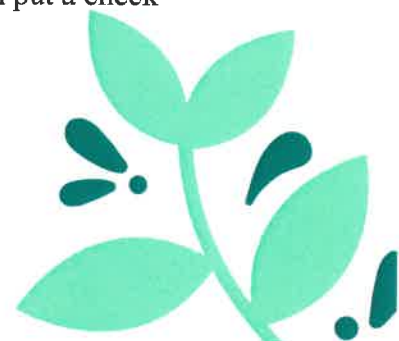
LIFE GROUP

1. Thinking back on the worship celebration this past Sunday, did you connect with God? How and if not, why do you think that was?
2. What is your favorite way to worship God?
3. What is your favorite worship song and why?
4. Share about a specific situation in which you found yourself thinking much the same thoughts that Asaph struggled with. Refer to your personal study.
5. Psalm 73:9-11 makes the ungodly seem like little “gods” to those around them. Who are some of the “gods” of our culture and what effect do they have on people? What is it that people envy about them?
6. What doubts have you had about the Christian life? Do you feel guilty about these doubts? Why or why not? Is doubt wrong? Why or why not? How do you think God responds to people who doubt him? Are you careful in expressing your doubts openly? Why or why not?
7. What new perspective does Psalm 73 give you about your own circumstances?
8. Do you view worship as something that mainly happens at church, or does it happen in other areas of your life?
9. Do you feel closer to God when you spend time worshipping Him?
10. How would your life change if you decided to live a lifestyle of true worship?
11. It is challenging to worship the Lord in the midst of personal trauma. Do you have any helpful advice for the others in your group on how to overcome?
12. As you’ve matured as a worshiper, have you found giving to take on a new meaning for you? How?
13. Discuss your experience of the statement, “In the church today, nothing is quite so controversial as worship style.” Why do you think this is so?
14. The New Testament is very strong in correcting the attitudes of the believer. What other “attitude-checks” can you come up with that apply to our attitudes in praise and worship?
15. Danny Hall leaves for India this next week with International Justice Mission. Pray for what he can take in and what he can give out while he’s there. Consider inviting him to one of your Life Group meetings to share about his experience when he gets back.

PERSONAL STUDY

Bill talked about Psalm 73 written by Asaph. Re-read the Psalm, using the The Message found in the bulletin, or from another modern translation like the New Living Translation.

The dictionary defines envy as the resentful and unhappy feeling of wanting somebody else’s success, good fortune, qualities or possessions. Paraphrase Asaph’s observations about the ungodly (agnostics) and what aroused his envy in each of these verses and then put a check



beside the observations where you can say, “I hear you, Asaph! I’ve been there! I know what you’re feelin’, brother!”

Asaph’s Observations About the Wicked (Ungodly) Do You Relate?

vs 4

vs 5

vs 6

vs 7

vs 8

vs 9

vs 10

vs 11

vs 12

Read Romans 12:1. How does this change your view of what it means to worship?

When we get to the end of the Bible, we see the saints and angels in heaven falling on their faces and worshiping God. Check out:

Revelation 4:10-11

Revelation 5:8-14

Revelation 7:9-11

Since worship will be our ceaseless activity and greatest joy in heaven, we ought to be practicing it now. What are ways you have experienced physical expressions of worship?

Here are some faith lessons from Psalm 73:

Looking in the wrong direction will cause me to have the wrong perspective.

Success and riches are not always a sign of God’s blessing.

Lack of success and riches is not a sign of God’s disfavor.

Regardless of my circumstances, God is good all the time!

I should look to God for answers to problems that trouble me.

There is no security apart from God.

Experiencing God’s presence is the most important thing in this life.

Which of these faith lessons means the most to you? Why?

Read 2 Chronicles 20:1-30 and respond to these questions as if you were writing to God:

What is one of the biggest battles you have faced in the past?

How did you respond to this struggle and how did it affect your relationship with God?

What is one of the biggest battles you are facing right now in life?

What would it look like to more fully worship and trust God through this battle?

Check out Psalm 15 and John 4:24. What would you look for in “prepared worshiper”?