



# IMMANUEL CHURCH

**Discussion Guide: Break the Dark**  
**May 28, 2017**

## **Opening Questions:**

- Why are so many people afraid of the dark? What is it about the dark that makes us worry, have anxiety, and run from it?
- What parts of your life would you say are in the dark right now? What are the things that keep you up at night? The things that are uncertain or unexpected? Where are you missing clarity and peace; and are in need of some rescue?

## **Looking at Scripture:**

- Read **Psalm 27:1-3...** David refers to God as a light, salvation, and a fortress. Which of those metaphors do you resonate with most? Do you long for the clarity that comes with light? The rescue that comes with salvation? Or the peace that comes with a fortress?
- David asks himself why he'd be afraid if he has all of those things in God. The same God's Spirit is within you, so why are you afraid? Why do you think we have such a hard time living into the reality of who God is and what he offers us?
- Being we are the temple of God and Christ is in us, we take God with us into all darkness. Have you ever thought about the idea of God being in the dark too? That he's there with you when you face uncertainty and the unexpected? Knowing that, do you feel any differently? Why or why not?
- We can have confidence in both God's protection *and* his defeat of whatever threatens us. What does living in victory look like for you? How does that change the way you navigate the various challenges you face?

## **Application Questions:**

- This week's bottom line was **COURAGE DOESN'T COME FROM THE INSIDE, IT COMES FROM THE OUTSIDE**. We are unable to manufacture courage on our own, it must be given to us. Does that frustrate you at all? And do you think it's more or less difficult to be courageous if it's within us but only from Jesus?
- Read **Psalm 27:14...** What does waiting patiently for the Lord mean? What are the implications on our prayer life? And why do you suppose this is what David says instead of "run to the Lord" or "count on the Lord?" Why "wait?"
- Do you typically think about waiting as doing nothing? It's tempting to think about it as not courageous or at the very least, unhelpful when you're in the dark facing a trial... Have you ever considered though, that waiting is growing? That it's actually deepening our relationship with God? What are your thoughts about that?

*End your time together praying. Ask God to give each of you patience in your waiting. Ask him to bless you with the courage that comes with his presence in your life. Thank him for the victory that he's already won. Finally, remind each other this week that the battle belongs to the Lord!*