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# SUMMER PSALMS

SWARTZ FBC LEADER DISCUSSION GUIDE



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**SCRIPTURE:** Psalm 4

**SERIES:** Summer Psalms

**TITLE:** Gospel Confidence

**BIG IDEA:** In the Gospel we find an unshakable confidence given to us by the grace of God.

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## TEXT

**4** TO THE CHOIRMASTER: WITH STRINGED INSTRUMENTS. A PSALM OF DAVID.

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

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## Head / Heart / Hands

- What does this text teach me?
- What does it tell me to feel?
- What does it tell me to do?

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<sup>1</sup> [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2025), Ps 4:title–8.

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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!

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## **1. GOSPEL CONFIDENCE IS BUILT ON PAST PROVIDENCE.**

- What tends to drain your confidence most quickly?
  - o Conflict, criticism, money issues, marriage stress, parenting, health, etc.
- What is the role of humility in confidence?
- Why is remembering God's past faithfulness so vital to current confidence?
- What is your usual response when your prayer doesn't seem to be answered?
- What does it mean practically to know who we are and who God is?
  - o Why is this such a foundationally important thing to grasp as a believer?

***Application Question: Where has God been faithful to you?***

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.

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## **2. GOSPEL CONFIDENCE HELPS US TO LOOK AT OTHERS THE WAY GOD LOOKS AT US.**

- What makes responding with grace difficult?
- What does it look like practically to be angry and not sin?
- When you are upset, what is your typical response and attitude?
- What is the balance needed to wisely navigate the waters between criticism and self-examination?
- What wisdom do we see in David's reaction?

***Application Question: What power have you handed over to others to be used against you?***

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.

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### **3. GOSPEL CONFIDENCE COMES FROM TREASURING THE RIGHT THING.**

- What are some common places to look for comfort and confidence?
- What is the difference in enjoying God’s gifts and building an identity in them?
- Why is sleep and peace connected in verse 8?
- What are you most tempted to believe will finally make you feel secure and safe?
  - o How does the Gospel and this text challenge that?
- How does Jesus perfectly embody the characteristics of Psalm 4?

***Application Question: Where are your joy and confidence coming from?***