“The Oasis of Fellowship”
Psalm 84
Picture the Refreshment of an Oasis

*Dry, arid land
*Parched throat
*Severe shortage of water
*Extreme weakness
*“Altered level of consciousness” = mirages

Clint Eastwood = “Good, Bad, the Ugly”
Symptoms of a Dry, Parched Spirit

* Loss of energy and desire; serving = drudgery
* Sustained draining, or “desert” experiences
* Emotions are “fragile” – extreme reactions
* God seems distant
* Loss of joy of our salvation

“Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them” (John 7:38).

“Be filled with the Spirit” (Ephesians 5:18).
David’s (?)Antidote = Loveliness of the Lord!

Vs. 1 – how “lovely” are Thy dwelling places!

* In the heart – “…so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith” (Ephesians 3:17)

* In the midst of His people (God) “inhabits the praises of His people” (Psalm 22:3)

* Uplifts our expectations of worship!
Note David’s Desire for the Lord

Vs. 1 – the hunger / pursuit of loveliness
Vs. 2 – “longs... yearns” = burst of praise!
Vs. 4 – blessed are those dwelling in Your house
Vs. 5 – in whose heart are highways to Zion
Vs. 10 – just 1 day in your courts; better than 1,000 outside
Vs. 10 – Even to stand at the threshold!
David’s **Source** of Strength

Some? Politics
Some? Fame
Some? Money
Some? Power

Vs. 5 – strength is in **THEE**
church attendance is a priority, b/c we’re
desperate without you!

Hebrews 10:24-25 =
  *Renewed in corporate worship
Why? *The Lord’s Power to Transform!* Vs. 6

The “valley of Baca” (weeping, tears)
Tears, grief, brokenness = part of real life!

Who? The one whose strength is the Lord!

Vs. 6 – “they make it *a spring*!”

“And the parched ground shall become a pool”
(Isaiah 35:7)

“Who giveth songs in the night” (Job 35:10)
The Radical Point Where Human History Changes...

The resurrection changes everything!
“death is no longer master over Him” (Rom. 6:9).

“What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not spare His own Son...how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?” (Romans 8:31-32)

“(He) makes springs in US!” (Psalm 84:7).
Vs. 9 – He is Our Shield! (Protector)

Anti-virus and malware shield
“...checks the program first, comparing it to known viruses, worms, and other types of malware.”

NT Sealed in the holy Spirit – Ephesians 1:13
The Word = “sword of the Spirit”
Jesus’ Invitation Every Sunday, Every Day!

“Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. “Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS. “For My yoke is easy and My burden is light”

(Matthew 11:28-30).