

09/07

HOME GROUP GUIDE

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE:

LISTEN

Listen to the sermon and read through the main passages(s)



REFLECT

Prayerfully answer the questions below



DISCUSS

Meet with your group to discuss



RESPOND

Apply the truth of God's word to your life

BACKGROUND:

In Psalm 145, David uses the Hebrew alphabet to form an acrostic for his hymn of praise. The psalm begins with a personal vow to bless God daily (vv. 1–2) and expands into a universal chorus where every generation celebrates His mighty deeds (vv. 3–7). It celebrates God's gracious and compassionate nature (vv. 8–9), his everlasting, sovereign rule (vv. 10–13), His mercy and provision for all creation (vv. 14–16), and his righteous justice toward those who call on him (vv. 17–20). Finally, the psalm concludes with a promise and a plea (v. 21). David promises that his "mouth will speak the praise of the Lord." His plea is that "all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever."

As fallen creatures, we often think in transactional terms. If we give something, we expect to get something in return. Too often, what we receive is less than satisfactory. But in this psalm, David reminds us of the incredible blessings that flow from our praise. As we praise God, we get to enjoy more of him, witness the nations blessing his name, and show future generations the hope that faith provides. May David's words draw our eyes toward heaven this week, reminding us that as God's children, praise is both our duty and our delight.

OPEN:

1. Share something or someone in your life that you find easy to praise (such as a person, hobby, or team). What makes this praise come so naturally?

REFLECT & APPLY:

2. Read Psalm 145:1-2. What are some actions or habits that show a lifelong dedication to praising God? How can we keep our praise heartfelt and meaningful, so it doesn't just become a routine?

3. Read Psalm 145:3-7. What does it look like to "commend" God's works to the next generation (v.4)? What are some stories of his faithfulness you can share that demonstrate his character?

4. Read Psalm 145:8-9. How do God's grace and compassion affect the way we relate to him?
5. Read Psalm 145:10-13. God's power is unmatched and cannot be rivaled. How can understanding this truth give us confidence for the week ahead?
6. Read Psalm 145:14-16. Where have you seen God uphold the fallen or provide at just the right time? What keeps us from asking him more freely?
7. Read Psalm 145:17-21. What does it mean that he is "near to all who call on Him in truth," and how does that affect the way we pray? Who might be inspired to seek God as you share what he has done this week?
8. Verse 14 reminds us that "The Lord upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down." One way he does this is through our acts of service toward others. With this in mind, consider participating in one of these ministry opportunities as a group this semester.

Home Group Service Opportunities:

- a. **Room in the Inn:** Your group can serve a group of members of the homeless community for an evening while they are hosted at the church overnight.
- b. **RIFA:** Your group can sign up to serve lunch together at RIFA's Soup Kitchen the week of December 9-12.
- c. **YoungLife Northside:** Your group can serve students at Northside High School by providing dinner for their Monday night club meetings.
- d. **YoungLives:** Your group can serve young single mothers by providing childcare during their club meetings.
- e. **College Fellowship:** Your group can provide dinner for college students during exam week at our "College Fellowship: Barn Study Hall" on either December 8, 9, or 10.
- f. **Scarlet Rope Project:** Your group can volunteer to serve at Wingfest 2025, Scarlet Rope's annual fundraiser, on Saturday, October 25, from 1:00 to 5:00 PM.

For more information or to sign up for one of these opportunities, contact Jeremy Hunt at jhunt@fellowshipjackson.com or LaShon Hawks at lhawks@fellowshipjackson.com

**FOR MORE RESOURCES, ACCESS THE HOME GROUP QUESTIONS FROM THE FELLOWSHIP APP,
OR HEAD TO OUR WEBSITE AT [FELLOWSHIPJACKSON.COM/HOMEGROUPGUIDE](https://fellowshipjackson.com/homegroupguide)**