

Summer in the Psalms – Week three -Small Group Guide

Small Group Guide: "The Blessedness of Dwelling with God"

Opening Prayer

Key Takeaways:

1. God is our shield and protector.
2. Time spent in God's presence is more valuable than anything else.
3. Serving humbly in God's house is better than living in luxury apart from Him.
4. God provides grace, glory, and good things to those who walk uprightly.
5. True blessedness comes from trusting in God.

Discussion Questions:

1. The sermon mentions God as our "shield." How have you experienced God's protection in your life?
2. What does it mean to you personally to dwell in God's presence? How do you cultivate this in your daily life?
3. The psalmist says he'd rather be a doorkeeper in God's house than dwell in the tents of wickedness. What are some "tents of wickedness" that tempt us today, and how can we resist them?
4. Pastor Gerald talked about intentionally planning time to separate from the world and enter God's presence. What practical steps can you take to create more space for God in your life?

5. How does seeing God as both a "sun" and "shield" impact your understanding of His character?

6. The sermon mentions that as Christians, we're called to reflect Christ's light. In what ways can we do this in our daily lives and communities?

7. Reflect on the promise "No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly." How does this challenge or encourage you?

Practical Applications:

1. Schedule a "presence day" this week: Set aside a few hours or a full day to unplug, pray, fast, and seek God's presence intentionally.

2. Identify one area where you can serve in your local church, even in a small way.

3. Keep a "light journal" for a week: Each day, write down one way you reflected Christ's light to others.

4. Evaluate your daily influences (media, relationships, activities). Is there anything you need to adjust to better align with walking uprightly?

5. Memorize Psalm 84:11-12 this week and meditate on its promises.

Closing Prayer: Thank God for His protection, presence, and promises. Ask for His help in trusting Him more fully and walking uprightly.