

Summer in the Psalms – Week three Devotional Guide

Day 1: Longing for God's Presence

Reading: Psalm 84:1-4, John 14:15-21

Devotional: The psalmist expresses a deep longing for God's presence, comparing it to a bird finding its home. This desire for closeness with God is at the heart of our faith journey. Jesus promised that He would not leave us as orphans, but would send the Holy Spirit to dwell within us. Today, reflect on your own longing for God. How can you create space in your life to experience His presence more fully? Consider setting aside a specific time and place for quiet reflection and prayer, inviting God to meet you there.

Day 2: The Journey of Faith

Reading: Psalm 84:5-8, Hebrews 11:13-16

Devotional: The pilgrimage described in Psalm 84 mirrors our spiritual journey. We pass through valleys of hardship, yet find strength in God along the way. The author of Hebrews reminds us that we are aliens and strangers on earth, seeking a heavenly country. Today, consider the challenges in your own faith journey. How has God provided springs of blessing in your difficult seasons? Remember that each step of faith, no matter how small, brings you closer to God. Pray for strength and perseverance as you continue your pilgrimage.

Day 3: God Our Shield and Protector

Reading: Psalm 84:9-12, Ephesians 6:10-18

Devotional: The psalmist describes God as our shield, a powerful image of divine protection. Paul echoes this in Ephesians, urging us to take up the shield of faith. This protection isn't just for individuals, but for the entire church community. How have you experienced God's protection in your life? In what ways can you be a "shield" for others in

your faith community? Consider reaching out to someone who might need encouragement or support today, reflecting God's protective love to them.

Day 4: The Value of God's Presence

Reading: Psalm 16:5-11, John 15:1-11

Devotional: "A day in Your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere," declares the psalmist. This echoes Jesus' words about abiding in Him and experiencing the fullness of joy. In our busy lives, it's easy to neglect time with God. Today, intentionally "unplug" from distractions and spend extended time in God's presence. As you do, reflect on the joy and peace that comes from this communion. How can you prioritize these moments of connection with God in your daily routine?

Day 5: Trusting in God's Goodness

Reading: Psalm 84:11-12, Romans 8:28-39

Devotional: The psalm concludes with a powerful statement of God's goodness and the blessedness of trusting in Him. Paul expands on this theme in Romans, assuring us that God works all things for the good of those who love Him. Reflect on areas of your life where trust is difficult. What good things might God be withholding for your ultimate benefit? Ask God for the faith to trust His goodness, even when circumstances are challenging. Close your devotional time by listing specific blessings God has given you, cultivating a heart of gratitude.