

Discussion Guide

questions to help start or continue conversations about faith

Discussion Guides accompany the [weekly message](#).

Passage: Psalm 13 & Psalm 100

Observation (look at the text):

- Ps. 13:1-2 What is the repeated cry of David's heart?
- Ps. 13:3 What does David ask of God?
- Ps. 13:3-4 What is David's fear?
- Ps. 13:5-6 What does David resolve to do?
- Ps. 100:1-2 What three expressions of worship are found in these two verses?
- Ps. 100:3 What three things does the writer instruct us to know?
- Ps. 100:4 Where are we instructed to give thanks and praise to God?
- Ps. 100:5 What attributes of God does the writer mention for why we should praise God?

Interpretation (understand what it means):

Read John 16:33, Ephesians 6:12 and James 1:2-4. The LORD is not the cause of the trouble and trials we go through, but Jesus told us we will have trouble in this world.

- When trouble comes, why does James tell us to consider it pure joy?
- How does God use the trouble of this world for our good?
- How does this knowledge help us to worship when we just want to say "How long, Lord?"

Read Psalm 91

- In Psalm 103, David cried out four times, "How long?" Psalm 91:15 teaches us the LORD will be with us in trouble. How does this knowledge help us respond as David did in Ps. 13:5-6 – even when the trouble persists, and we don't feel like singing and giving praise to God?
- When we are afraid (Ps. 13:3-4), it is hard to sign and give praise to God because we only see the fear. Psalm 91:5 gives a beautiful promise for when we trust in the LORD – "You will not be afraid." How does trusting in the LORD in the face of fear help us respond as David did in Ps. 13:5-6?

Read John 4:19-24

- In Psalm 100 – we are instructed to come into His presence with singing and to enter His gates and enter His court to worship with thanksgiving and praise.
 - According to John 4, before Jesus came, where were the people of God required to worship?
 - What changed when Jesus came?
 - According to John 4 – where can we now come into His presence and enter His gates and His court with thanksgiving?
 - How does Jesus instruct us to approach God in worship?

Application (apply the Word of God to life):

- The book of James instructs us to consider the difficulties of life “pure joy.”
 - What “trials of various kinds” are in the current stage of your journey?
 - Are you able to respond as David did in Psalm 13:5 and say, “But... my heart shall rejoice...”?
 - Amid your trials, what songs can you sing, even when you don’t feel like it?
 - If there is not a song that comes to mind, ask the Lord to give you a new song (Psalm 144:9).
- Are you currently asking God, “How long,” or is there a fear in your life that keeps you from singing songs of worship to the Lord?
 - As you consider Psalm 91, is there a song you can sing, even when you don’t feel like it?
 - If there is not a song that comes to mind, ask the Lord to give you a new song (Psalm 144:9).
- If the current stage of your journey resembles Psalm 13:6 and you are singing songs of worship because the Lord has dealt bountifully with you, what can you do to help someone close to you who is finding it difficult to sing?
- When we are hurting...
 - Why is it difficult to sing songs of praise to the Lord?
 - Why is it good to sing songs of praise to the Lord?
- If you are hurting, what steps do you need to take to make a joyful noise to the Lord?