

SUMMER IN THE PSALMS

Two Paths Message 2

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July 23, 2023

C. Two _____.
(Psalm 1:3-4. C/R: Genesis 2:8-10; Jeremiah 17:8; Ezekiel 47:12; Hosea 13:3)

► Outline

Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him.
Psalm 34:8 (NIV)

A. Introduction
(Psalm 1:1a; 34:8)

B. Two _____.
(Psalm 1:1-2. C/R: Deuteronomy 6:4-7; Psalm 2:4; Matthew 6:24)

D. Two _____.
(Psalm 1:5-6; Malachi 4:1-3; Romans 5:1. C/R: Psalm 62:12; Revelation 20:4-6, 11-15)

Answers: B. Paths C. Pictures D. Perishings

Resource Information: Scripture quotations marked (NLT) are taken from the *Holy Bible*, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, a Division of Tyndale House Ministries, Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved. C/R refers to a 'cross reference.' Today's outline and discussion guide are available through the Brookwood Church app.

► Discussion Guide

Use this guide by yourself or with friends to pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus. To connect with others, visit brookwoodchurch.org/adults.

Conversation Starter

What's continually on your mind?

Prayer

Pause quietly for a few moments to allow the presence of God to settle into your spirit. Ask God to help you hear His voice and give you a responsive heart as you reflect on this week's material.

Bible Study and Group Discussion

Read Psalm 1:1-3 out loud.

1. Describe a time you experienced the joy of God.
2. It's fairly obvious that we're influenced by the people around us. Who was a bad influence on you during your teenage years?
3. Think of people you see on a regular basis. What impact does their advice, attitude and behavior have on you? Can you think of examples?
4. Describe a time God gave you strength to withstand temptation.
5. What does it mean to *delight in the law of the LORD* (vs. 2)? How can you do that more continually throughout the day (especially in light of the responsibilities and demands of life)?
6. How does reading and reflecting on the Bible produce fruit in a person's life?

Read Psalm 1:4-6 out loud.

7. What does it mean that wicked people are like *worthless chaff* (vs. 4)? How can you tell when someone is living that sort of life?
8. Which truths from the Bible keep you most grounded?

9. This Psalm clearly describes two different paths. Compare and contrast vs. 1-3 with vs. 4-6. Describe these paths in your own words. What other images or pictures come to mind?
10. This Psalm calls the reader to live every area of life under the reign of God (and so to avoid judgment and destruction, vs. 5-6). What are specific examples of how you've applied biblical truths to both your work and relationships?
11. How does this Psalm inspire or challenge you? How is God leading you to respond?

Spiritual Practice

A spiritual practice is something we can do to help us live in and enjoy God's grace. Our hope is that these would become a regular part of your life, so that walking and talking with God is the most natural thing you do.

An important spiritual practice is choosing daily the life you want to live (Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Joshua 24:14-15; Psalm 1:1-3). Spend time this week imagining a life *planted on the riverbank, bearing fruit each season* (Psalm 1:3). What would that look like for you? What would be different? Ask the Holy Spirit to guide your thoughts. Name at least one change that needs to be made, then choose to live, and pursue the joy of God.

Memory Verse

*Taste and see that the LORD is good;
blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him.*

Psalm 34:8 (NIV)

Daily Reading

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|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Day 1: Matthew 6:22-24 | Day 4: Genesis 2:8-10 |
| Day 2: Psalm 2:11 | Day 5: Malachi 4:1-4 |
| Day 3: Ezekiel 47:12 | |

Prepare for Next Sunday

Next Sunday, July 30, we'll continue the series *Summer in the Psalms*. To prepare, read **Psalm 63**.



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