

Pastor Dave Patterson
A LIFE OF WORSHIP
Part 7: Going to the House of God

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures referenced in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your small group's goal is not to pound through the questions but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships, so knock yourself out with the discussion questions but spend more time laughing than answering the questions.

The blessings of the Lord are good, and there are no sorrows that come with them.

[Psalm 122:1]

I was glad when they said to me, let's go to the house of the Lord.

[Psalm 84:1-2,4, NLT]

*How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of Heaven's armies. **I long, yes, I faint with longing to enter the courts of the Lord.** What joy for those who can live in your house, always singing your praises.*

Church: *Where the worship lifts us, the Word challenges us, the Holy Spirit impacts us, the friendship encourages us, where moms and dads have a perfect opportunity to establish priorities in their children and set them on a path for success in life!*

The place where Jesus is exalted, the broken are healed and lives are transformed.

The place where we can lay our burdens down, take up our calling and go out to live in victory!

Come to church to minister; when you come to give and not to get, you will always go home full.

[1 Peter 2:9]

*For you are a chosen people. **You are royal priests**, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.*

[Psalm 73:1-3]

*Surely God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart. But as for me, my feet had almost slipped; I had nearly lost my foothold. For I envied the arrogant **when I saw** the prosperity of the wicked.*

A paradigm shift is when you see the same thing through a different lens. When you're looking through the wrong lens, your reality changes.

[Psalm 73:16]

So I tried to understand why the wicked prosper. But what a difficult task it is! (AMP: "it was painful to consider, it troubled me deeply")

[Psalm 73: 17]

Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then I understood...

[Psalm 73:17-26]

Then I went into your sanctuary, O God, and I finally understood the destiny of the wicked. Truly, you put them on a slippery path and send them sliding over the cliff to destruction. In an instant they are destroyed, completely swept away by terrors. When you arise, O Lord, you will laugh at their silly ideas as a person laughs at dreams in the morning. Then I realized that my heart was bitter, and I was all torn up inside. I was so foolish and ignorant--I must have seemed like a senseless animal to you. Yet I still belong to you; you hold my right hand. You

guide me with your counsel, leading me to a glorious destiny. Whom have I in heaven but you? I desire you more than anything on earth. My health may fail, and my spirit may grow weak, but God remains the strength of my heart; he is mine forever.

DISCUSSION THOUGHTS

- 1. Who is one person that you would consider the least likely to come to church? With what do they associate the word "church?" What keeps them from wanting to come?**
- 2. How do we build a culture where people come to church for the right reasons?**
- 3. What happens in church that transforms lives? What has your personal transformation looked like in the House of God?**
- 4. As believers in Jesus, what's our "job description" when we come to church? (*To give and not to get*)**
- 5. What does it mean to "sanctify your time?" How is that an act of worship?**
- 6. Why do some Christ followers get disillusioned right in the middle of their faith journey? In other words, why do some get twisted? (*Consider Asaph in Psalm 73*)**
- 7. Where can we go to keep moving forward and to gain some realignment? What are some practical things you can do even this week?**