

# PSALMS OF SUMMER



**Pastor Dave Patterson**

## **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.

### **[Psalm 84:4 (AMP)]**

*Blessed (happy, fortunate, and to be envied) are those who dwell in Your house and Your presence;*

### **The Heart of a Psalmist:**

1. The heart of a Psalmist lives with a longing for God and an appetite that springs from encounter.

### **[Psalm 34:8]**

*"Oh taste and see the Lord is good: Oh the joy that awaits those who take refuge in him"*

(**taste** *ta'am*= to experience, to discover and know for yourself )

2. The heart of a Psalmist sings its best songs on in its worst days!

**[Psalms 84:5-7]**

*Blessed are those whose strength is in you,  
whose hearts are set on pilgrimage.  
As they pass through the Valley of Baka,  
they make it a place of springs;  
the autumn rains also cover it with pools.  
They go from strength to strength,  
till each appears before God in Zion.*

**[Psalm 84:4&5]**

*“...they are ever praising you”  
“...they have set their heart on pilgrimage”*

3. The heart of a Psalmist lives in the blessing of His presence.

**[Psalm 84:10]**

*Better is one day in your courts  
than a thousand elsewhere;  
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God  
than dwell in the tents of the wicked.*

**[Psalm 84:11]**

*“...the LORD bestows favor and honor”  
“LORD Almighty, blessed is the one who trusts in you”*

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. When you think of the book of Psalms what comes to mind?
2. On a scale from 1-10 how would you grade your longing for God? What is your personal encounter with God that fuels this longing?
3. Can you remember a time when you encountered God on your worst day? What did He do for you on that day?
4. What happens to the atmosphere when we choose to give the sacrifice of praise even in our darkest hour?

5. When, where and how do you live in His presence? Have you discovered how to find your way into it?
6. Gather around those who are in a season of darkness and begin to shift your gaze from the storm and focus on God as you lift your voices with a sacrifice of praise.