

# PSALMS OF SUMMER



## Pastor Joseph Zwanziger PSALMS OF SUMMER Part 2

### 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.

***It's not just the facts; God knows all feelings, as well! You will not offend God with your truthful cry that you lift to Him.***

**[Psalm 73:1-14, TPT] – A Psalm of Asaph**

*<sup>1</sup>No one can deny it – God is really good to Israel and to all those with pure hearts. But I nearly missed seeing it for myself. <sup>2</sup>Here's my story: I came so close to missing the way. <sup>3</sup>I was stumbling over what I saw with the wicked. For when I saw the boasters with such wealth and prosperity, I became jealous over their smug security. <sup>4-5</sup>Indulging in whatever they wanted, going where they wanted, doing what they wanted, and with no care in the world. No pain, no problems, they seemed to have it made. They lived as though life would never end. <sup>6</sup>They didn't even try to hide their pride and opulence. Cruelty and violence is part of their lifestyle. <sup>7</sup>Pampered and pompous, vice oozes from their souls;*

*they overflow with vanity!* <sup>8</sup>*They're such snobs – looking down their noses they even scoff at God! They are nothing but bullies threatening God's people!* <sup>9</sup>*Loudmouths with no fear of God, pretending to know it all! Windbags full of hot air, impressing only themselves!* <sup>10</sup>*Yet the people keep coming back to listen to more of their same nonsense.* <sup>11</sup>*They tell their cohorts, "God will never know. See, he has no clue of what we're doing."* <sup>12</sup>*These are the wicked ones I'm talking about! They never have to lift a finger, living a life of ease while their riches multiply.* <sup>13</sup>*Have I been foolish to play by the rules and keep my life pure?* <sup>14</sup>*Here I am suffering under your discipline day after day while they sail through life without a care.*

***Life makes sense in His Presence; our distorted view vanishes when we look in the Light.***

**[Psalm 73:16-17, TPT]**

*<sup>16</sup>So when I tried to understand it all, I just couldn't. It was too puzzling – too much of a riddle to me. <sup>17</sup>But then, one day I was brought into the sanctuaries of God, and in the light of glory, my distorted perspective vanished."*

**[Psalm 36:9]**

*"In Your light, we see light"*

**"The Presence of God" = where God is**

**[Psalm 73:17, TPT]**

*"But then, one day I was brought into the sanctuaries of God."*

**[Psalm 132:13-14, NKJV]**

*For the Lord has chosen Zion; He has desired it for His dwelling place: "This is My resting place forever; Here I will dwell, for I have desired it."*

**[Matthew 6:6, NKJV]**

*But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, **pray to your Father who is in the secret place**; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.*

**What happens in His Presence?**

**1) Acceptance**

**2) Refreshing**

**[Psalm 27:14, NKJV]**

*Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart; wait, I say, on the Lord!*

**[Matthew 11:28, NIV]**

*Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.*

**[Acts 3:19, NKJV]**

*Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that **times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.***

### **3) Clarity & Vision**

**[Isaiah 40:31, NKJV]**

*But those who wait on the Lord, shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.*

**[Psalm 73:25-26, NIV]**

*Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.*

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- 1. What are some things that refresh you? What are some things that burn you out?**
- 2. When have you had a perspective changed when someone shed more light on the subject?**
- 3. Where can you get alone, close the door, and find God in the Secret Place?**
- 4. What happens in the presence of God? What's the fruit of getting there?**
- 5. How can you prioritize the presence of God this week?**