

PSALMS

OF ————— SUMMER

THE FATHER'S HOUSE

Ascend The Hill
Pastor Dave Patterson 08.24.2025

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

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. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

[Psalm 122:1-2]

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD." And now here we are, standing inside your gates, O Jerusalem.

[2 Corinthians 3:18] [AMP]

We are progressively being transformed into His image from one degree of glory to even more glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

[Hebrews 8:5]

For when Moses was getting ready to build the Tabernacle, God gave him this warning: "Be sure that you make everything according to the pattern I have shown you here on the mountain."

1. Respond to the invitation

[Psalm 27:8]

My heart has heard you say, "Come and talk with me." And my heart responds, "LORD, I am coming."

2. Qualify for the climb

[Psalm 24:3-6]

Who may ascend the mountain of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place? Only those who have clean hands and a pure heart, who do not worship idols and do not swear deceitfully. They will receive the LORD's blessing and have a right relationship with God their savior. Such people may seek you and worship in your presence, O God of Jacob.

[1 John 1:9]

But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.

[1 John 3:20]

If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.

[Ezekiel 36:26]

And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart.

3. Simply refuse to stay in the low-lands

[Hebrews 10:19-23]

And so, dear brothers and sisters, we can boldly enter heaven's Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus. By his death, Jesus opened a new and life-giving way through the curtain into the Most Holy Place. And since we have a great High Priest who rules over God's house, let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him.

Key Points:

1. Respond to the invitation
2. Qualify for the climb
3. Simply refuse to stay in the low-lands

Applications for the Week:

Pastor Dave described Spiritual ascension as a process, not a one time event. Where do you see yourself on the journey right now, stuck, surviving, oscillating, or maturing? What is one step you could take this week to move upward?

Discussion Questions:

1. According to Psalm 24, what are the qualifications for ascending the hill of the Lord?
2. What does it mean to have clean hands and a pure heart as mentioned in Psalm 24?
3. Pastor Dave mentioned four types of spiritual journeys, a strong starter, a survivor, a porpoise, and a maturing believer. What are the main differences between these journeys?
4. What does 1 John 1:9 promise to those who confess their sins? How does this relate to our ability to ascend spiritually?

- 5.** How does the finished work of Jesus on the cross change the way we approach God, especially when we feel unworthy or condemned?
- 6.** Pastor Dave emphasized that the invitation to ascend is for everyone, not just Pastors or leaders. Why is it important to remember that no one is excluded from this journey?
- 7.** Pastor Dave mentioned practical steps like prayer, fasting, and serving as ways to respond to God's invitation. Which of these do you sense God inviting you to try or deepen in this season?