

## LIFE GROUP APPLICATION QUESTIONS

## *Psalms Series*

These questions are for the **May 1, 2022**, sermon, "Another Dead-End Rescue." Please read the sermon passage (Psalm 57) together out loud.

### Passage Outline

**When forward motion toward promised outcomes is threatened by the ongoing and seemingly successful opposition of God's enemies (and mine), the faithful servant of the Lord will . . .**

1. Learn to Pray. (1-5)
  - a. Cry out to God for mercy (1)
  - b. Trust God's timing (1)
  - c. Learn (desire) God's purposes (2)
  - d. See God's salvation and experience his love. (3-5)
2. Persist in praise. (6-11)
  - a. Get very low. (6)
  - b. Meditate ("steadfast"). (7, 5 & 11)
  - c. First priority: sing. (7-8)
  - d. Thank God publicly. (9-10)

### Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: Prayer is one of the great privileges of our personal relationship with God. We speak to him about our life, our problems, our emotions and our needs. However, it is often hidden, untended and unevaluated. What are the strengths and weaknesses of your prayer life?
2. Based on #1, above: It is often the deepest valleys and greatest disappointments which God uses to teach us to pray. David *would not* use his own resources (he would not lift his hand against the Lord's anointed) to establish forward motion, and he *could not* see another way. Describe what you are learning about God, in prayer, *because of* great trials.
3. Based on #2, above: In verse 7, David repeats "steadfast" twice. Praise starts with an internal and immovable conviction that God is right, trustworthy and "will send from heaven and save me" (3). How are you doing with an internal and immovable conviction regarding God's presence and goodness and strength for you?
4. Based on #2, above: A big part of praise is "public thanksgiving." Here, David is evangelistic, meaning that he is telling God's praise "among the nations," and inviting them to worship him. In what ways can you be faithful in giving thanks to God?
  - Let's spend time right here, right now thanking God for his "steadfast love" and "faithfulness."
  - How can you improve at thanking God "among the nations" (unbelievers)?