

## LIFE GROUP APPLICATION QUESTIONS

## *Psalms Series*

These questions are for the **August 7, 2022**, sermon, “The Restoration Plan.” Please read the sermon passage (Psalm 80) together out loud.

### Passage Outline

#### **WHEN SEEKING GOD’S INTERVENTION IN THREATENING TIMES, NOTE . . .**

1. The guidance that God has provided. (1-3)
  - a. In prayer we learn to cry out to God, waiting for his leading.
  - b. He shepherds us, providing protection from, and guidance through trouble.
2. The question that God has prompted. (4-7)
  - a. The question that we grapple with is often, “How long?”
  - b. While we wait, we ask, “Let your face shine” on us. (Numbers 6:24-26)
3. The preparations that God has made. (8-11)
  - a. Even while his people endure “devastation,” God is at work for our future good.
  - b. Our ultimate good came through Jesus’ sure and certain rescue.
4. The urgency that God has observed. (12-15)
  - a. God observes the affliction and hears our cries for help. He is responding.
  - b. All of God’s enemies will be subdued by his Son. A certain rescue has been secured.
5. The deliverance that God has promised. (16-19)
  - a. God’s people are called to faithfully trust and rely upon God’s promises.
  - b. The future is marked by God’s faithfulness to “restore.”

### Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: We learned that God provides guidance for both the faithful and the rebel. How have you experienced God’s guidance while you were faithful? How have you experienced God’s guidance while you were rebelling / disobedient?
2. Based on #2, above: We ask and even cry out the “How long?” question. In this passage, it is followed up with the plea for restoration and blessing (7). How do you manage the tension of the “How long?” question, with faithful waiting for God to act?
3. Based on #3, above: God is at work preparing the timing for his complete and decisive interventions for the good of his people and the glory of his name. He works this in rescuing and restoring his people, the providing of his Messiah, the establishment of a permanent and eternal dwelling place for his people in heaven, and his promise to return and rule the world for eternity. How does God’s faithfulness and God’s promise settle and encourage your heart?
4. Based on #4, above: God knows when things are “urgent” for us. He hears our prayers and is working an intervention of rescue, restoration and faithfulness. All of God’s enemies will be subdued. Even the last enemy (death) has now been defeated. In what way is your faith proven in urgent affliction? How can we pray for you?