

LIFE GROUP APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Psalms Series

These questions are for the **April 30, 2023**, sermon, "Jerusalem's Peace." Please read the sermon passage (Psalm 122) together out loud.

Passage Outline

AS WE PONDER JERUSALEM'S PLACE IN GOD'S PLAN, NOTE . . .

1. The invitation to worship being given. (1-2)
 - a. Each person is invited to come and worship the LORD.
 - i. This is an unbelievable privilege, which no one deserves.
 - ii. Being on this invitation list should inspire humility, joy and gladness.
 - b. Access to God should not be taken for granted. God gives it (grace) based upon receiving (faith) Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.
2. The thankfulness to God being expressed. (3-5)
 - a. The visuals of Jerusalem, with stones fit "firmly together," inspire gratitude.
 - b. God also bound the 12 tribes of Israel "firmly together," chosen and favored.
 - c. Though we were faithless and undeserving, by the LORD's work we are saved forever.
3. The prayer for peace being prioritized. (6-9)
 - a. Jerusalem means "city of Peace."
 - i. We pray for the peace of the city of peace.
 - ii. There is great turmoil in Jerusalem, yet God himself is their peace.
 - b. The peace that comes from God in Jesus is certain and eternal for those who know him.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: Coming to offer our lives and adoration to God on Sundays is the greatest privilege in this life. In what ways has your Sunday worship become routine? What can you do to consecrate it in your heart as holy? How can you prioritize it better? What steps can you take to help you remember how privileged (and glad!) you are to come into the "house of the Lord"?
2. Based on #2, above: Everything reminded God's people of his grace and sovereignty. In v. 3, even the stones that made up Jerusalem's walls reminded the worshipers of grace, provision, kept promises and protection, not to mention sovereignty. What simple scenes all around you constantly inspire you to give thanks to God? (Lakes, buildings, vistas, animals, people and friendships, for instance.)
3. Based on #2, above: How do you express thanksgiving to God? What can we give more than merely words? What about attitudes? Time? Worship? Tithing? Service?
4. Based on #3, above: The condition of Jerusalem (the "City of Peace") is one of danger and threats and affliction. Yet those who know God have his promises, which include an eternal peace which produces an internal peace. How are you learning to pray for Jerusalem's peace? How are you learning to trust God for that peace?