

LIFE GROUP APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Psalms Series

These questions are for the **May 21, 2023**, sermon, "If not for the LORD." Please read the sermon passage (Psalm 124) together out loud.

Passage Outline

AS WE CONSIDER GOD'S WAYS ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, NOTE HOW . . .

1. The presence of God has been available to us. (1-5)
 - a. We experience great afflictions which seem to ambush us.
 - i. When we look back, we are prone to ask the "If only?" questions.
 - ii. When we look ahead, we are prone to ask the "What if?" questions.
 - b. But as we turn to the LORD, we see clearly that God has always been faithful.
 - i. If it had not been for the LORD, we would have experienced greater calamity.
 - ii. God does not keep us out of the storms but protects us through them.
 - c. The "if only" questions will paralyze us, but faith in the LORD emboldens our obedience.
2. The protection of God has been experienced by us. (6-8)
 - a. God has provided saving help, pulling us to safety from the dangers which threaten.
 - b. If God has the strength to create the heavens and earth, he will rescue you.
 - c. The ultimate expression of saving strength is experienced in the work of Jesus Christ.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: How do you feel God's presence with you? Why is this so important?
2. Based on #1, above: How do you reconcile the reality that is with you with the fear and difficulty of "ambushes"?
3. Based on #2, above: How has God actually rescued you from danger, trials and afflictions? Get specific. Review the lowest moment(s) of your life. What did God do?
4. Based on #2, above: The future for God's people is one of real saving, constant joy and complete rescue forever. In what ways are you learning to see and believe these things? How does that impact the way you see and trust that God constantly protects you?