

TWO WAYS TO LIVE

PSALM 1

CHURCH GROUP SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS — JULY 31, 2022

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 1 ESV

1 *Blessed is the man*

*who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
nor stands in the way of sinners,
nor sits in the seat of scoffers;*

2 *but his delight is in the law of the Lord,
and on his law he meditates day and night.*

3 *He is like a tree*

*planted by streams of water
that yields its fruit in its season,
and its leaf does not wither.*

In all that he does, he prospers.

4 *The wicked are not so,*

but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

5 *Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;*

6 *for the Lord knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.*

SERMON RECAP

1. Main point from today's sermon:
 - The big Idea from Psalm 1 is that the man or woman of God should walk in the way of righteousness by delighting in the teaching of the LORD.
2. Three observations from Psalm 1:
 - The way of the righteous (V. 1-3)
 - The way of the unrighteous (V. 4-5)
 - The final results of both ways lived (V.6)
3. Three questions to ask as you apply these principles:
 - Does it build you up spiritually? (1 Cor. 10:23)
 - Does it bring me under its power? (1 Cor 6:12)
 - Do you have an uneasy conscience about it? (Rom 14:23b)

ICEBREAKER QUESTION

Can you think of a time when you meditated on something long enough that it was either helpful or harmful? What was that like?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What does the passage say?

1. Read Psalm 1 aloud as a group. Take some time to let group members share observations about the passage. Try not to move into interpretation of the passage or application of what you have



read quite yet. Simply share what you all observe from the text.

- How does this passage describe the way of the righteous? List as many characteristics as you can.
 - How does this passage describe the way of the wicked? List as many characteristics as you can.
2. How would you explain or summarize today's passage in your own words?

What does the passage mean?

1. Psalm 1 contrasts the difference between the way of the righteous and the way of the wicked. What is ultimately at stake here?
 - What are the end results of a righteous life?
 - What are the end results of a wicked life?
2. Romans 3:10 tells us that there is none righteous, not even one. Yet, we are to pursue the way of the righteousness. What does the gospel tell us is the only way to be righteous before God? See Rom 8:10-11, 2 Cor 5:21, Rom 8:1.
3. In this passage the righteous are described as a healthy and nourished tree. Pastor Todd reminded us in the sermon that a tree's fruit is for the benefit of others and not the tree. What does it mean for a tree to bear fruit in season? What might this mean for us?
4. Verse 3 says "in all that he does, he prospers." Consider what Scripture says about suffering in the life of a believer. See Matt 10:22, Mark 13:13, Heb 10:32-34. What does this tell us about God's definition of prospering?
5. This passage emphasizes that a difference between the way of the righteous and the and the way of the wicked is in where they find their delight.
 - What does the passage highlight as the significant difference between these two? (V.2a)
 - How does this passage describe a delighting commitment to know God's Word? (V.2b)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

How can we apply this passage to our lives?

1. Read Joshua 1:8, Psalm 119:48, 97-99. What are examples of meditating on God's Word from your personal life? Do you feel like this is a common or consistent practice in your life? What do you do if you don't feel like meditating on God's Word? Share with your group.
2. Pastor Todd shared three questions (listed above under Sermon Recap) that we should ask when we are looking for direction and seeking to grow our Christian character. Take some time to consider your current habits, hobbies, and interests. Considering the principles discussed today, and our desire to walk in the way of the righteous, what things should you:
 - Start doing?
 - Stop doing?
 - Continue doing?
 - How can your Church Group help?

LEADER NOTES

As a reminder due to annual Church Group rhythms, there will be no Sermon Discussion Guide provided in the month of August. The Sermon Discussion Guide will start back up in September 2022.

[Global Outreach Weekly Prayer Focus](#)

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McLean Bible Church