

February 10, 2019

Psalm 84, 100

He is a God who is real and who sees our real needs in a real world.

THE ROW  
LOOK UP/LOOK BACK

Begin your time by focusing on God (His character), review the Scriptures and the important points of the sermon taught in **the Row**.

- Read Psalm 84 & 100. How do these Psalms remind you about who God is, and about who you are?
- What are you most thankful for?

THE CIRCLE  
LOOK IN/LOOK AROUND

In **the Circle**, consider together what God is asking you to do and encourage each other.

- Read Psalm 84. In this passage there are three images that the writer provides:
  - The sparrow and the swallow
  - The worshiper or the pilgrim
  - The gatekeeperWhat do each of these images represent?

Follow-Up:

- Of these images which one reflects where you are in your relationship with Christ? Explain.
- As you think about the sparrow; how has God shown that He cares about the small, insignificant things that are a part of your life?
- Read Psalm 100. In this Psalm it mentions the role of the doorkeeper, which was a special role. Why do you think it was special? Are there serving roles today in which those serving get to hear stories of God's faithfulness?
- This Psalm of thanksgiving, among others, was to be sung during a time of trial. As you consider your times of trial how do they challenge you to give thanks?
- Why would giving thanks during a time of trial actually be a help from God?
- In Psalm 100, the Psalmist gives a number of reasons to praise God. What aspect of God's character motivates you to praise God?
- On Sunday, Pastor mentioned that, "until we come to the place where we must look to God beyond our natural ability and resources, we cannot be used by God to do what He wants us to do." Is there a place in your life right now where you are being pushed beyond your ability and resources? Explain. Where are you living out of your depth for God?

Follow-Up:

- What are you learning about God from this experience?

- Share from the list of what you are most thankful for, then take time as a group to worship and give thanks to the Lord.

THE CHAIR  
LOOK FORWARD/LOOK OUT

This coming week, spend some time in **the Chair** with God and go engage the broken world around you.

- Reflect on how God has been with you or someone close to you, in the 'valley of Bacca'? Spend some time reflecting on His goodness and mercy to you.
- Reflect on how your experience in the 'valley of Bacca' has brought you to a different place in your spiritual maturity or understanding of God's character.
- Spend some time in prayer thanking God that He cares about things that seem small to others, but are important to you.