



# Community Group Discussion Guide

Psalm 43– Oct 17, 2021

## I. Starter Questions:

- Where is a place that you like to go to get rejuvenated?
- When checking out a city that is new to you do you prefer a guided tour or to wander around and discover things on your own?

## II. Discussion of Scripture:

**Context:** Psalm 43 is a very short psalm, and it seems to go hand in hand with Psalm 42. In it the psalmist has conversations with both God and his own soul. He is struggling due to external oppression and is looking for help and a change in his own outlook.

### Psalm 43 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup> Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause  
against an ungodly people,  
from the deceitful and unjust man  
deliver me!

<sup>2</sup> For you are the God in whom I take refuge;  
why have you rejected me?  
Why do I go about mourning  
because of the oppression of the enemy?

<sup>3</sup> Send out your light and your truth;  
let them lead me;  
let them bring me to your holy hill  
and to your dwelling!

<sup>4</sup> Then I will go to the altar of God,  
to God my exceeding joy,  
and I will praise you with the lyre,  
O God, my God.

<sup>5</sup> Why are you cast down, O my soul,  
and why are you in turmoil within me?  
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,  
my salvation and my God.

### **Discussion Questions:**

- 1. Compare this Psalm with Psalm 42. In what ways are they the same? What lines are repeated?**
- 2. How do 42 and 43 differ?**
- 3. What does this Psalm remind us about how God invites us to communicate with him? How does Psalm 62:7-8 speak into this as well?**
- 4. What is the Psalmist requesting when he writes “Send out your light and your truth”? What does he believe will be the result of God’s light and truth being sent out?**
- 5. The psalmist describes God as his exceeding Joy even though he is desperately waiting for him and feels rejected. Would you describe God as your exceeding Joy? If not, what do you believe is hindering you? If so, how has God gotten you there?**
- 6. Read together the following passages in the Gospel of John: (1:1-18, 4:23-24, 8:12, 8:31-32, 12:35-36, 14:6-7, 14:15-17, 16:13). What do they have to say about light and truth?**
- 7. Can you give a passage or specific example of God’s truth that you remind yourself of when trying to lift up your own spirits?**
- 8. How would setting some time aside daily to specifically focus on who our God has revealed himself to be help us in our trials?**
- 9. If you have time, read through Jesus’ High Priestly prayer in John 17. What truths does this reveal about God’s heart for us as believers and his followers?**

### **III. Responding in Prayer:**

- Pray for MOJ and our Celebrate Recovery ministry. That they will continue be a source of light to those who are struggling with life’s hurts, and that more will be drawn and healed through the gospel of Christ.
- Pray that God will more and more become our Exceeding Joy and that we will be drawn to seek Him and His Kingdom.