



Community Group Discussion Guide

Psalm 52– Nov 27, 2022

I. Starter Questions:

- When you were young, did you and your sibling(s) tend to tell on each other, or did you have each other's back?
- Was there ever a time that they could have told on you and got you in significant trouble, but they didn't? Did it surprise you?

II. Discussion of Scripture:

Prior to diving into Psalm 52, **read 1 Samuel 21:1-9 & 22:6-23** for background into the setting of this Psalm. David is on the run from King Saul who is trying to kill him even though all David has shown him was loyalty. And now David learns that Ahimelech, the priest that helped him in his time of need has been turned in and killed for selfish gain by Saul's chief herdsman along with the priests that were brought to Saul with him. Think of the range of emotions that David might have felt in those circumstances. In the midst of those emotions, inspired by God, David penned this Psalm.

To the choirmaster. A Maskil of David, when Doeg, the Edomite, came and told Saul, "David has come to the house of Ahimelech."

1 Why do you boast of evil, O mighty man?

The steadfast love of God endures all the day.

2 Your tongue plots destruction,

like a sharp razor, you worker of deceit.

3 You love evil more than good,

and lying more than speaking what is right. *Selah*

4 You love all words that devour,

O deceitful tongue.

5 But God will break you down forever;

he will snatch and tear you from your tent;

he will uproot you from the land of the living. *Selah*

6 The righteous shall see and fear,

and shall laugh at him, saying,

7 "See the man who would not make

God his refuge,

but trusted in the abundance of his riches

and sought refuge in his own destruction!"

8 But I am like a green olive tree

in the house of God.

I trust in the steadfast love of God

forever and ever.

⁹I will thank you forever,
because you have done it.
I will wait for your name, for it is good,
in the presence of the godly.

Discussion Questions:

1. Considering the story that you read in 1 Samuel 21&22, in your own words summarize the context of this Psalm that David wrote in response. What had just occurred? What emotions might he have been feeling?
2. What statement is being made in verse 1? What comparison or contrast is being made?
3. Read verses 2-4. What words or phrases are being used to describe the mighty man?
4. Read verses 5-7. What is the fate of this mighty man? Who is accomplishing the judgment and justice?
5. Read verses 8-9. Contrast David's actions to the mighty man's. List them out. How can we apply similar actions in our own lives when experiencing injustice?
6. If you have extra time read Psalm 73. Discuss how this Psalm complements Psalm 52.
7. Read Romans 12:9-21. In light of Jesus' saving work on the cross and our adoption into His family, what practical application do we find in this passage for how to live in the face of injustice and persecution?

III. Responding in Prayer:

Pray that we will be a church that places our trust in the Lord and his promises in the face of injustice and trial. Pray that we will be a church that trusts in and maintains gratitude for the steadfast love of Christ who while we were yet his enemies died for us to secure our salvation, restoration and glorification for eternity.

Pray for the families that struggle with various pains and sadness during the holiday season. Pray that we will be attentive to their needs and show them Jesus through our actions.