

- 1 Be concise.** Please share your thoughts and answers, but be considerate so that others will have time to share their answers also. Be charitable and kind. Be willing to share with the group, but do not try to dominate the conversation. Use the time after the class to find help with any personal issues or problems you may be confronting in your life.

“Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.”

(James 1:19–20)

- 2 Be thoughtful with your answer.** Consider your words. Do not simply regurgitate what you have always heard. We have the tendency to speak in “Christianese” — words that only people who grew up on the pews would understand. Think about how your words will be heard by others. Will they understand what you are saying? Is what you are about to say going to be useful for the building up of the faith of others? Or will your words be confusing, cause hurt, or worse, damage someone’s faith? Speak without harshness or anger, but with kindness and humility.

“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.”

(Ephesians 4:29)

- 3 Rely on the scriptures for truth.** It is easy to rely upon conventional, worldly wisdom as truth. Bible study is about seeking God’s answers for our lives, not dispensing the advice of the world. We must consider that our natural answers may be the wrong answers if they are not founded on God’s word.

“For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.”

(1 Corinthians 1:25)

Have you ever read a chapter in the Bible but then could not remember what you had read? Have you ever fallen asleep while reading? An hour after you read, do you retain what you have read? These problems destroy enjoyment in Bible reading and therefore we must use a method of Bible reading that will solve this problem. To read properly we must be keen observers. We must see words and phrases that stand out while at the same time collecting the whole thought. Remember, the important thing is not how many times you have gone through the Bible, but how many times the Bible has gone through you!

### **Observe // what do I see?**

Every time we study the Bible, the first thing to ask is, "What do I see?" This is the crucial skill of observation, which lays the groundwork for your study. The text is given to you so that you will underline, circle, box, and highlight important words as you read. As you read look for comparisons, contrasts, purposes, results, causes, explanations, conclusions, and conditions. Ask yourself who, what, where, when, why, and how as you read. Keep asking these questions as you read to prevent a lazy brain while reading. Look for themes and main ideas from the passage.

### **Interpret // what does it mean?**

Our observation of a passage should stir interesting yet challenging questions, leading us to the second stage of our Bible study: interpretation. Reread through the passage after your observation notations have been made looking to answer what the passage means. Record your explanations of the text in the workbook.

### **Apply // how does this affect me?**

Our Bible study is not over until we apply what we have learned to our everyday lives. Write down lessons that you have learned for your own life especially things that you see you need to change. Only you know your heart and what is happening in your life to be able to apply God's word directly to you. Bible study is fruitless if we do not take the information we have learned and directly change our lives. Write down how the passage affects you. The transformation section in the workbook will help you in this effort.

### **Share // how can I share my findings with us?**

Now we want to share our findings with others. We want to share our observations, interpretations, and applications with others in the Bible class. This is your opportunity to hear what others have found in their studies and for you to share what you found. By doing this we are able to build one another up and grow up in the unity of the faith (Ephesians 4:12-13). If we do not share what we have found then we will be unable to grow together as the family of Christ.

At the end of each psalm is a devotional quotation from Charles Spurgeon as a stimulus for further thinking about the impact and application of God's word in your life.

TO THE CHOIRMASTER: ACCORDING TO DO NOT DESTROY. A MIKTAM OF DAVID.

- 1 Do you indeed decree what is right, you gods? Do you judge the children of man uprightly?
- 2 No, in your hearts you devise wrongs; your hands deal out violence on earth.
- 3 The wicked are estranged from the womb; they go astray from birth, speaking lies.
- 4 They have venom like the venom of a serpent, like the deaf adder that stops its ear,
- 5 so that it does not hear the voice of charmers or of the cunning enchanter.
- 6 O God, break the teeth in their mouths; tear out the

fangs of the young lions, O LORD!

- 7 Let them vanish like water that runs away; when he aims his arrows, let them be blunted.
- 8 Let them be like the snail that dissolves into slime, like the stillborn child who never sees the sun.
- 9 Sooner than your pots can feel the heat of thorns, whether green or ablaze, may he sweep them away!
- 10 The righteous will rejoice when he sees the vengeance; he will bathe his feet in the blood of the wicked.
- 11 Mankind will say, "Surely there is a reward for the righteous; surely there is a God who judges on earth."  
(ESV)

Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Make additional notes at left and below:

- 1 Explain the questions of verse 1. Look at some other translations for alternative understandings of what the psalmist is asking.
- 2 Describe their character from verses 2-5.
- 3 What is the psalmist praying for in verses 6-9? What is the message?
- 4 What will the righteous say (58:10)?
- 5 What will the people say (58:11)?

**TRANSFORMATION:**

✎ What does this psalm teach you about God?

✎ How does this change how you will think about God and approach God?

✎ How will this psalm change how you live your life today?

*Spurgeon: "Two things will come out clearly after all—there is a God and there is a reward for the righteous. Time will remove doubts, solve difficulties, and reveal secrets; meanwhile faith's foreseeing eye discerns the truth even now, and is glad thereof."*



4 What does the psalmist NOT want the Lord to do (59:11-13)? Why? What does the psalmist want?

5 How else are the opponents described (59:14-15)?

6 What will the psalmist do (59:16-17)? How will he do this? Why will he do this?

**TRANSFORMATION:**

➤ What does this psalm teach you about God?

➤ How does this change how you will think about God and approach God?

➤ How will this psalm change how you live your life today?

*Spurgeon: "Note how he sets the title, My God, over against the word, mine enemies. This is the right method of effectually catching and quenching the fiery darts of the enemy upon the shield of faith. God is our God, and therefore deliverance and defence are ours."*



**TRANSFORMATION:**

✍️ What does this psalm teach you about God?

✍️ How does this change how you will think about God and approach God?

✍️ How will this psalm change how you live your life today?

*Spurgeon: “ In the case of Christians there is much encouragement for a resolve similar to that of the first clause. We shall do valiantly, we will not be ashamed of our colours, afraid of our foes, or fearful of our cause. The Lord is with us, omnipotence sustains us, and we will not hesitate, we dare not be cowards. ”*



TO THE CHOIRMASTER: WITH STRINGED INSTRUMENTS. OF DAVID.

- 1 Hear my cry, O God, listen to my prayer;
- 2 from the end of the earth I call to you when my heart is faint. Lead me to the rock that is higher than I,
- 3 for you have been my refuge, a strong tower against the enemy.
- 4 Let me dwell in your tent forever! Let me take refuge under the shelter of your wings! *Selah*

- 5 For you, O God, have heard my vows; you have given me the heritage of those who fear your name.
- 6 Prolong the life of the king; may his years endure to all generations!
- 7 May he be enthroned forever before God; appoint steadfast love and faithfulness to watch over him!
- 8 So will I ever sing praises to your name, as I perform my vows day after day. (ESV)

Main point: \_\_\_\_\_

Make additional notes at left and below:

- 1 What does the psalmist say about the Lord (61:1-3)?
- 2 What does the psalmist request (61:3-4)?
- 3 What does the psalmist desire and how does he praise the Lord (61:5-8)?

### TRANSFORMATION:

✍ What does this psalm teach you about God?

✍ How does this change how you will think about God and approach God?

✍ How will this psalm change how you live your life today?

*Spurgeon: "Our heavenly Father is not hardened against the cries of his own children. What a consoling thought it is that the Lord at all times hears his people's cries, and is never forgetful of their prayers; whatever else fails to move him, praying breath is never spent in vain!"*

TO THE CHOIRMASTER: ACCORDING TO JEDUTHUN. A PSALM OF DAVID.

- 1 For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation.
- 2 He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken.
- 3 How long will all of you attack a man to batter him, like a leaning wall, a tottering fence?
- 4 They only plan to thrust him down from his high position. They take pleasure in falsehood. They bless with their mouths, but inwardly they curse. *Selah*
- 5 For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope is from him.
- 6 He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I

shall not be shaken.

- 7 On God rests my salvation and my glory; my mighty rock, my refuge is God.
- 8 Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us. *Selah*
- 9 Those of low estate are but a breath; those of high estate are a delusion; in the balances they go up; they are together lighter than a breath.
- 10 Put no trust in extortion; set no vain hopes on robbery; if riches increase, set not your heart on them.
- 11 Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God,
- 12 and that to you, O Lord, belongs steadfast love. For you will render to a man according to his work. (ESV)

Main point: \_\_\_\_\_

Make additional notes at left and below:

- 1 What does the psalmist understand about the Lord (62:1-2)?
- 2 What does the psalmist ask (62:3-4)?
- 3 What does the psalmist understand and tell others to know (62:5-8)?
- 4 What does the psalmist teach about the Lord and about life (62:9-12)?

### TRANSFORMATION:

☞ What does this psalm teach you about God?

☞ How does this change how you will think about God and approach God?

☞ How will this psalm change how you live your life today?

*Spurgeon: "David had often lain concealed in rocky caverns, and here he compares his God to such a secure refuge; and, indeed, declares him to be his only real protection, all-sufficient in himself and never failing." 10*

A PSALM OF DAVID, WHEN HE WAS IN THE WILDERNESS OF JUDAH.

- 1 O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
- 2 So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.
- 3 Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.
- 4 So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands.
- 5 My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips,

- 6 when I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night;
- 7 for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy.
- 8 My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.
- 9 But those who seek to destroy my life shall go down into the depths of the earth;
- 10 they shall be given over to the power of the sword; they shall be a portion for jackals.
- 11 But the king shall rejoice in God; all who swear by him shall exult, for the mouths of liars will be stopped. (ESV)

Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Make additional notes at left and below:

- 1 How does the psalmist seek the Lord (63:1-3)? Why?
- 2 What will the psalmist do and remember (63:4-8)?
- 3 What will happen to the enemies (63:9-12)?

**TRANSFORMATION:**

✍ What does this psalm teach you about God?

✍ How does this change how you will think about God and approach God?

✍ How will this psalm change how you live your life today?

*Spurgeon: "Only after God, therefore, let us pant. Let all desires be gathered into one. Seeking first the kingdom of God—all else shall be added unto us."*

TO THE CHOIRMASTER. A PSALM OF DAVID.

- 1 Hear my voice, O God, in my complaint; preserve my life from dread of the enemy.
- 2 Hide me from the secret plots of the wicked, from the throng of evildoers,
- 3 who whet their tongues like swords, who aim bitter words like arrows,
- 4 shooting from ambush at the blameless, shooting at him suddenly and without fear.
- 5 They hold fast to their evil purpose; they talk of laying snares secretly, thinking, "Who can see them?"
- 6 They search out injustice, saying, "We have accomplished

a diligent search." For the inward mind and heart of a man are deep.

- 7 But God shoots his arrow at them; they are wounded suddenly.
- 8 They are brought to ruin, with their own tongues turned against them; all who see them will wag their heads.
- 9 Then all mankind fears; they tell what God has brought about and ponder what he has done.
- 10 Let the righteous one rejoice in the LORD and take refuge in him! Let all the upright in heart exult! (ESV)

Main point: \_\_\_\_\_

Make additional notes at left and below:

- 1 What does the psalmist plead (64:1-2)?
- 2 What is happening to the psalmist (64:3-6)?
- 3 What will God do to such people (64:7-9)?
- 4 What should the righteous do (64:10)?

### TRANSFORMATION:

✍ What does this psalm teach you about God?

✍ How does this change how you will think about God and approach God?

✍ How will this psalm change how you live your life today?

*Spurgeon: "We shall act wisely if we make prayer to God our first and best trusted resource in every hour of need."*

TO THE CHOIRMASTER. A PSALM OF DAVID. A SONG.

- 1 Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion, and to you shall vows be performed.
- 2 O you who hear prayer, to you shall all flesh come.
- 3 When iniquities prevail against me, you atone for our transgressions.
- 4 Blessed is the one you choose and bring near, to dwell in your courts! We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, the holiness of your temple!
- 5 By awesome deeds you answer us with righteousness, O God of our salvation, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas;
- 6 the one who by his strength established the mountains, being girded with might;
- 7 who stills the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples,

- 8 so that those who dwell at the ends of the earth are in awe at your signs. You make the going out of the morning and the evening to shout for joy.
- 9 You visit the earth and water it; you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide their grain, for so you have prepared it.
- 10 You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.
- 11 You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with abundance.
- 12 The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy,
- 13 the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy. (ESV)

Main point: \_\_\_\_\_

Make additional notes at left and below:

- 1 Why is God to be praised (65:1-3)?
- 2 What are God's actions toward the people (65:4-8)?
- 3 What are God's actions to the world (65:8-13)?

### TRANSFORMATION:

✍ What does this psalm teach you about God?

✍ How does this change how you will think about God and approach God?

✍ How will this psalm change how you live your life today?

*Spurgeon: "All, all is for the Lord; the world is a hymn to the Eternal, blessed is he who, hearing, joins in it, and makes one singer in the mighty chorus."*

TO THE CHOIRMASTER. A SONG. A PSALM.

- 1 Shout for joy to God, all the earth;
- 2 sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise!
- 3 Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to you.
- 4 All the earth worships you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name." *Selah*
- 5 Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man.
- 6 He turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot. There did we rejoice in him,
- 7 who rules by his might forever, whose eyes keep watch on the nations— let not the rebellious exalt themselves. *Selah*
- 8 Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard,
- 9 who has kept our soul among the living and has not let our feet slip.
- 10 For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.
- 11 You brought us into the net; you laid a crushing burden on our backs;

- 12 you let men ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a place of abundance.
- 13 I will come into your house with burnt offerings; I will perform my vows to you,
- 14 that which my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.
- 15 I will offer to you burnt offerings of fattened animals, with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams; I will make an offering of bulls and goats. *Selah*
- 16 Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for my soul.
- 17 I cried to him with my mouth, and high praise was on my tongue.
- 18 If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.
- 19 But truly God has listened; he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
- 20 Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me! (ESV)

Main point: \_\_\_\_\_

Make additional notes at left and below:

- 1 What are all on the earth to do (66:1-7)? Why?
- 2 What is God praised for (66:8-15)? What will be the psalmist's response?
- 3 What does the psalmist teach the people (66:16-20)?

### TRANSFORMATION:

- ☞ What does this psalm teach you about God?
- ☞ How does this change how you will think about God and approach God?
- ☞ How will this psalm change how you live your life today?

*Spurgeon: "He has neither withdrawn his love nor my liberty to pray. He has neither cast out my prayer nor me. His mercy and my cries still meet each other."*

TO THE CHOIRMASTER: WITH STRINGED INSTRUMENTS. A PSALM. A SONG.

- 1 May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, *Selah*
- 2 that your way may be known on earth, your saving power among all nations.
- 3 Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!
- 4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth. *Selah*

- 5 Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!
- 6 The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, shall bless us.
- 7 God shall bless us; let all the ends of the earth fear him! (ESV)

Main point: \_\_\_\_\_

Make additional notes at left and below:

- 1 What is the opening prayer of the psalmist (67:1-2)?
- 2 Why should God be praised (67:3-6)?
- 3 What is the psalmist's confidence (67:7)?

### TRANSFORMATION:

✍ What does this psalm teach you about God?

✍ How does this change how you will think about God and approach God?

✍ How will this psalm change how you live your life today?

*Spurgeon: "And all the ends of the earth shall fear him. The far off shall fear. The ends of the earth shall end their idolatry, and adore their God."*

TO THE CHOIRMASTER. A PSALM OF DAVID. A SONG.

- 1 God shall arise, his enemies shall be scattered; and those who hate him shall flee before him!
- 2 As smoke is driven away, so you shall drive them away; as wax melts before fire, so the wicked shall perish before God!
- 3 But the righteous shall be glad; they shall exult before God; they shall be jubilant with joy!
- 4 Sing to God, sing praises to his name; lift up a song to him who rides through the deserts; his name is the LORD; exult before him!
- 5 Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation.
- 6 God settles the solitary in a home; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious dwell in a parched land.
- 7 O God, when you went out before your people, when you marched through the wilderness, *Selah*
- 8 the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain, before God, the One of Sinai, before God, the God of Israel.
- 9 Rain in abundance, O God, you shed abroad; you restored your inheritance as it languished;
- 10 your flock found a dwelling in it; in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.
- 11 The Lord gives the word; the women who announce the news are a great host:
- 12 “The kings of the armies—they flee, they flee!” The women at home divide the spoil—
- 13 though you men lie among the sheepfolds— the wings of a dove covered with silver, its pinions with shimmering gold.
- 14 When the Almighty scatters kings there, let snow fall on Zalmon.
- 15 O mountain of God, mountain of Bashan; O many-peaked mountain, mountain of Bashan!
- 16 Why do you look with hatred, O many-peaked mountain, at the mount that God desired for his abode, yes, where the LORD will dwell forever?
- 17 The chariots of God are twice ten thousand, thousands upon thousands; the Lord is among them; Sinai is now in the sanctuary.
- 18 You ascended on high, leading a host of captives in your train and receiving gifts among men, even among the rebellious, that the LORD God may dwell there.
- 19 Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up; God is our salvation. *Selah*
- 20 Our God is a God of salvation, and to GOD, the Lord, belong deliverances from death.
- 21 But God will strike the heads of his enemies, the hairy crown of him who walks in his guilty ways.
- 22 The Lord said, “I will bring them back from Bashan, I will bring them back from the depths of the sea,
- 23 that you may strike your feet in their blood, that the tongues of your dogs may have their portion from the foe.”
- 24 Your procession is seen, O God, the procession of my God, my King, into the sanctuary—
- 25 the singers in front, the musicians last, between them virgins playing tambourines:
- 26 “Bless God in the great congregation, the LORD, O you who are of Israel’s fountain!”
- 27 There is Benjamin, the least of them, in the lead, the princes of Judah in their throng, the princes of Zebulun, the princes of Naphtali.
- 28 Summon your power, O God, the power, O God, by which you have worked for us.
- 29 Because of your temple at Jerusalem kings shall bear gifts to you.
- 30 Rebuke the beasts that dwell among the reeds, the herd of bulls with the calves of the peoples. Trample underfoot those who lust after tribute; scatter the peoples who delight in war.
- 31 Nobles shall come from Egypt; Cush shall hasten to stretch out her hands to God.
- 32 O kingdoms of the earth, sing to God; sing praises to the Lord, *Selah*
- 33 to him who rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; behold, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice.
- 34 Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel, and whose power is in the skies.
- 35 Awesome is God from his sanctuary; the God of Israel—he is the one who gives power and strength to his people. Blessed be God! (ESV)



Main point: \_\_\_\_\_

Make additional notes at left and below:

- 1 What will God do (68:1-3)? What will be the response of the righteous?
  
- 2 Why should the people sing to the Lord (68:4-10)?
  
- 3 What is the good news proclaimed (68:11-14)?
  
- 4 Explain the meaning of the metaphor used in verses 15-18.
  
- 5 How is God described (68:19-23)? What does God do?
  
- 6 What is pictured in verses 24-27?
  
- 7 What is God called up to do (68:28-35)? What will the peoples do?

**TRANSFORMATION:**

✍️ What does this psalm teach you about God?

✍️ How does this change how you will think about God and approach God?

✍️ How will this psalm change how you live your life today?

*Spurgeon: "He is strong, and makes strong: blessed are they who draw from his resources, they shall renew their strength."*

TO THE CHOIRMASTER. A PSALM OF DAVID.

- 1 Hear my voice, O God, in my complaint; preserve my life from dread of the enemy.
- 2 Hide me from the secret plots of the wicked, from the throng of evildoers,
- 3 who whet their tongues like swords, who aim bitter words like arrows,
- 4 shooting from ambush at the blameless, shooting at him suddenly and without fear.
- 5 They hold fast to their evil purpose; they talk of laying snares secretly, thinking, "Who can see them?"
- 6 They search out injustice, saying, "We have accomplished

a diligent search." For the inward mind and heart of a man are deep.

- 7 But God shoots his arrow at them; they are wounded suddenly.
- 8 They are brought to ruin, with their own tongues turned against them; all who see them will wag their heads.
- 9 Then all mankind fears; they tell what God has brought about and ponder what he has done.
- 10 Let the righteous one rejoice in the LORD and take refuge in him! Let all the upright in heart exult! (ESV)

Main point: \_\_\_\_\_

Make additional notes at left and below:

1 Who?

2 What?

3 What

### TRANSFORMATION:

✍ What does this psalm teach you about God?

✍ How does this change how you will think about God and approach God?

✍ How will this psalm change how you live your life today?

*Spurgeon: "We shall*

TO THE CHOIRMASTER: ACCORDING TO THE LILIES. OF DAVID.

- 1 Save me, O God! For the waters have come up to my neck.
- 2 I sink in deep mire, where there is no foothold; I have come into deep waters, and the flood sweeps over me.
- 3 I am weary with my crying out; my throat is parched. My eyes grow dim with waiting for my God.
- 4 More in number than the hairs of my head are those who hate me without cause; mighty are those who would destroy me, those who attack me with lies. What I did not steal must I now restore?
- 5 O God, you know my folly; the wrongs I have done are not hidden from you.
- 6 Let not those who hope in you be put to shame through me, O Lord GOD of hosts; let not those who seek you be brought to dishonor through me, O God of Israel.
- 7 For it is for your sake that I have borne reproach, that dishonor has covered my face.
- 8 I have become a stranger to my brothers, an alien to my mother's sons.
- 9 For zeal for your house has consumed me, and the reproaches of those who reproach you have fallen on me.
- 10 When I wept and humbled my soul with fasting, it became my reproach.
- 11 When I made sackcloth my clothing, I became a byword to them.
- 12 I am the talk of those who sit in the gate, and the drunkards make songs about me.
- 13 But as for me, my prayer is to you, O LORD. At an acceptable time, O God, in the abundance of your steadfast love answer me in your saving faithfulness.
- 14 Deliver me from sinking in the mire; let me be delivered from my enemies and from the deep waters.
- 15 Let not the flood sweep over me, or the deep swallow me up, or the pit close its mouth over me.
- 16 Answer me, O LORD, for your steadfast love is good; according to your abundant mercy, turn to me.
- 17 Hide not your face from your servant, for I am in distress; make haste to answer me.
- 18 Draw near to my soul, redeem me; ransom me because of my enemies!
- 19 You know my reproach, and my shame and my dishonor; my foes are all known to you.
- 20 Reproaches have broken my heart, so that I am in despair. I looked for pity, but there was none, and for comforters, but I found none.
- 21 They gave me poison for food, and for my thirst they gave me sour wine to drink.
- 22 Let their own table before them become a snare; and when they are at peace, let it become a trap.
- 23 Let their eyes be darkened, so that they cannot see, and make their loins tremble continually.
- 24 Pour out your indignation upon them, and let your burning anger overtake them.
- 25 May their camp be a desolation; let no one dwell in their tents.
- 26 For they persecute him whom you have struck down, and they recount the pain of those you have wounded.
- 27 Add to them punishment upon punishment; may they have no acquittal from you.
- 28 Let them be blotted out of the book of the living; let them not be enrolled among the righteous.
- 29 But I am afflicted and in pain; let your salvation, O God, set me on high!
- 30 I will praise the name of God with a song; I will magnify him with thanksgiving.
- 31 This will please the LORD more than an ox or a bull with horns and hoofs.
- 32 When the humble see it they will be glad; you who seek God, let your hearts revive.
- 33 For the LORD hears the needy and does not despise his own people who are prisoners.
- 34 Let heaven and earth praise him, the seas and everything that moves in them.
- 35 For God will save Zion and build up the cities of Judah, and people shall dwell there and possess it;
- 36 the offspring of his servants shall inherit it, and those who love his name shall dwell in it. (ESV)

Main point: \_\_\_\_\_

Make additional notes at left and below:

- 1 What is the psalmist calling out for in verses 1-3?
- 2 What is happening to the psalmist and what is his request (69:4-7)?
- 3 What else is happening to the psalmist (69:8-12)? What is he doing and seeking?
- 4 What is the psalmist's prayer (68:13-15)?
- 5 What else is the psalmist requesting (68:16-18)?
- 6 What else is happening to the psalmist (68:19-21)?
- 7 What is the psalmist's request (68:22-28)?
- 8 What will the psalmist do (68:29-36)?
- 9 Go back through the psalm and look at the messianic references prophesied. What is going to happen to the Christ?

**TRANSFORMATION:**

✍ What does this psalm teach you about God?

✍ How does this change how you will think about God and approach God?

✍ How will this psalm change how you live your life today?

*Spurgeon: "Thus a Psalm, which began in the deep waters, ends in the city which hath foundations.  
How gracious is the change. Hallelujah."*

TO THE CHOIRMASTER. OF DAVID. FOR THE MEMORIAL OFFERING.

- 1 Make haste, O God, to deliver me! O LORD, make haste to help me!
- 2 Let them be put to shame and confusion who seek my life! Let them be turned back and brought to dishonor who delight in my hurt!
- 3 Let them turn back because of their shame who say, "Aha, Aha!"

- 4 May all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you! May those who love your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"
- 5 But I am poor and needy; hasten to me, O God! You are my help and my deliverer; O LORD, do not delay! (ESV)

Main point: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Make additional notes at left and below:

- 1 What is the psalmist's cry?
- 2 What does he call for God to do?
- 3 What is the psalmist's praise?

**TRANSFORMATION:**

- ✍ What does this psalm teach you about God?
- ✍ How does this change how you will think about God and approach God?
- ✍ How will this psalm change how you live your life today?

*Spurgeon: "All true worshippers, though as yet in the humble ranks of seekers, shall have cause for joy."*

- 1 In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame!
- 2 In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me, and save me!
- 3 Be to me a rock of refuge, to which I may continually come; you have given the command to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.
- 4 Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel man.
- 5 For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O LORD, from my youth.
- 6 Upon you I have leaned from before my birth; you are he who took me from my mother's womb. My praise is continually of you.
- 7 I have been as a portent to many, but you are my strong refuge.
- 8 My mouth is filled with your praise, and with your glory all the day.
- 9 Do not cast me off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength is spent.
- 10 For my enemies speak concerning me; those who watch for my life consult together
- 11 and say, "God has forsaken him; pursue and seize him, for there is none to deliver him."
- 12 O God, be not far from me; O my God, make haste to help me!
- 13 May my accusers be put to shame and consumed; with scorn and disgrace may they be covered who seek my hurt.
- 14 But I will hope continually and will praise you yet more and more.
- 15 My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all the day, for their number is past my knowledge.
- 16 With the mighty deeds of the Lord GOD I will come; I will remind them of your righteousness, yours alone.
- 17 O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.
- 18 So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come.
- 19 Your righteousness, O God, reaches the high heavens. You who have done great things, O God, who is like you?
- 20 You who have made me see many troubles and calamities will revive me again; from the depths of the earth you will bring me up again.
- 21 You will increase my greatness and comfort me again.
- 22 I will also praise you with the harp for your faithfulness, O my God; I will sing praises to you with the lyre, O Holy One of Israel.
- 23 My lips will shout for joy, when I sing praises to you; my soul also, which you have redeemed.
- 24 And my tongue will talk of your righteous help all the day long, for they have been put to shame and disappointed who sought to do me hurt. (ESV)

Main point: \_\_\_\_\_

Make additional notes at left and below:

- 1 What does the psalmist proclaim in verses 1-3?
- 2 What does the psalmist request (71:4-8)? What is the basis for his request?
- 3 What are the enemies saying (71:9-13)? What is the psalmist's request?
- 4 What will the psalmist do in spite of his enemies (71:14-16)?

5 What the psalmist praise and hope in the Lord (71:17-24)?

6 What characteristics about God are highlighted (71:17-24)?

**TRANSFORMATION:**

✍ What does this psalm teach you about God?

✍ How does this change how you will think about God and approach God?

✍ How will this psalm change how you live your life today?

*Spurgeon: "Faith believes that she has her request, and she has it. She is the substance of things hoped for—a substance so real and tangible, that it sets the glad soul singing."*

OF SOLOMON.

- 1 Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son!
- 2 May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice!
- 3 Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness!
- 4 May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!
- 5 May they fear you while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!
- 6 May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth!
- 7 In his days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more!
- 8 May he have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth!
- 9 May desert tribes bow down before him, and his enemies lick the dust!
- 10 May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render him tribute; may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!
- 11 May all kings fall down before him, all nations serve him!
- 12 For he delivers the needy when he calls, the poor and him who has no helper.
- 13 He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy.
- 14 From oppression and violence he redeems their life, and precious is their blood in his sight.
- 15 Long may he live; may gold of Sheba be given to him! May prayer be made for him continually, and blessings invoked for him all the day!
- 16 May there be abundance of grain in the land; on the tops of the mountains may it wave; may its fruit be like Lebanon; and may people blossom in the cities like the grass of the field!
- 17 May his name endure forever, his fame continue as long as the sun! May people be blessed in him, all nations call him blessed!
- 18 Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.
- 19 Blessed be his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his glory! Amen and Amen!
- 20 The prayers of David, the son of Jesse, are ended. (ESV)

Main point: \_\_\_\_\_

Make additional notes at left and below:

- 1 Write down all that the psalmist prays for the king (72:1-11).
- 2 What is the reason for these requests (72:12-14)?
- 3 What else is prayed for (72:15-20)?
- 4 What else is proclaimed about the Lord (72:15-20)?



5 Explain verse 20. How can this be when there are more psalms of David in the book of Psalms recorded?

**TRANSFORMATION:**

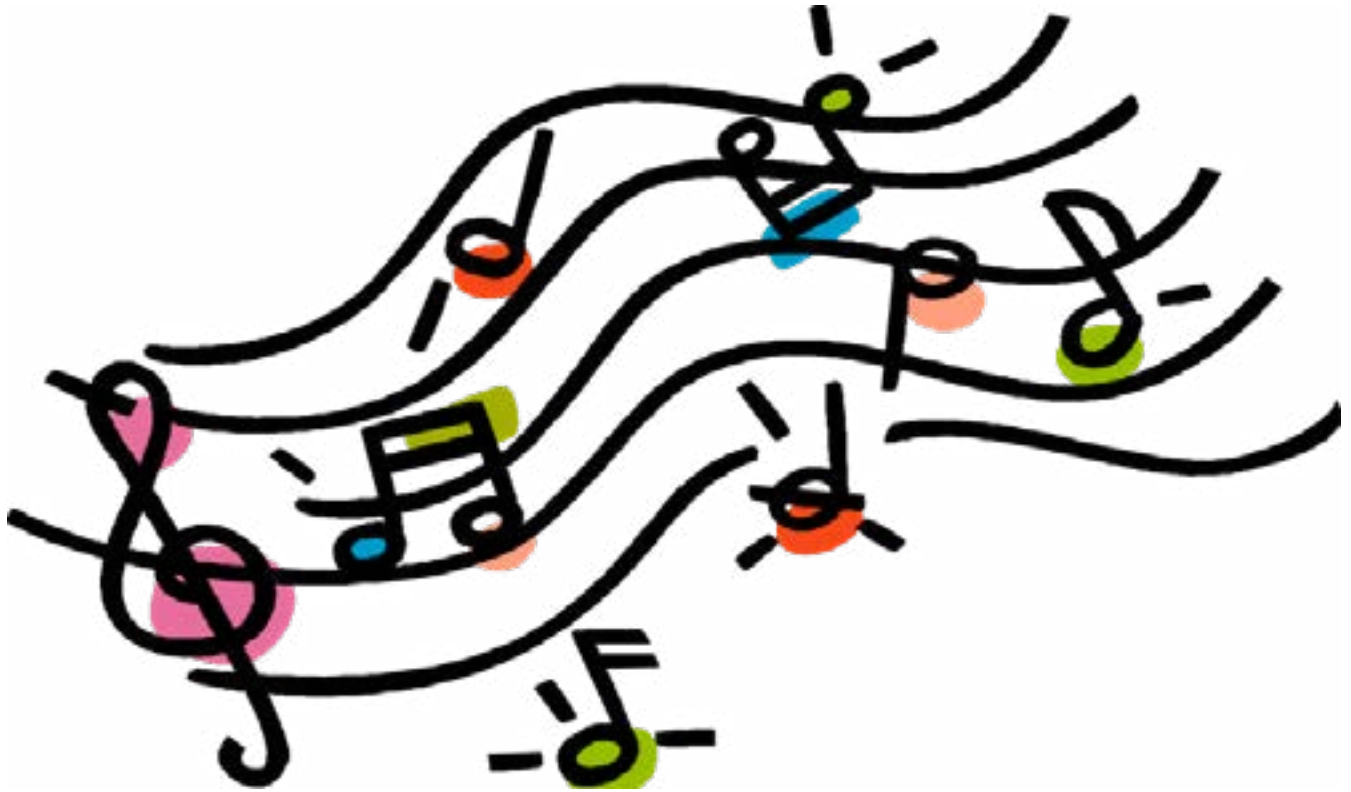
✍ What does this psalm teach you about God?

✍ How does this change how you will think about God and approach God?

✍ How will this psalm change how you live your life today?

*Spurgeon: "He is the Blessed God, and his name shall be blessed; his name is glorious, and that glory shall fill the whole earth. For so bright a consummation our heart yearns daily, and we cry Amen, and Amen."*

# PSALMS



INSTRUCTIONS FROM ISRAEL'S BOOK OF SONGS

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VOLUME 4 — PSALMS 58-72

SELF-STUDY WORKBOOK

by: Brent Kercheville