

king's chapel

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of December 3, 2017

This Week's Focus: The Psalms of Advent: *Waiting*

This Week's Text: Psalm 25

"When he [Jesus] was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls." **1 Peter 2:23-25**

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- What has the Holy Spirit impressed on your heart and mind from this week's sermon/text?
- How is Psalms like the other collected books of Scripture, and how is it uniquely different? What are some of your favorite Psalms and how do they resonate with you?
- Discuss the three types of Hebrew parallelism: *Synonymous* (Psalm 120:2), *Antithetical* (Psalm 1:6; 25:3), *Synthetic* (Psalm 28:1-2; 42:1). Why is it important to understand this literary device as we read Hebrew poetry in Scripture?
- What does it mean to wait on God? Reference verses 1-5, 21. Discuss ways we can *actively* wait on God, especially while facing hardships in life. Reference Psalm 1:1-2.
- Are you currently struggling with waiting (confidently hoping and trusting) on God? Share from your life some ways you have waited on God. What are some things you learned about God and yourself in your waiting?
- Read verses 6-11, 18. Why does David express repentance of sin when he is being oppressed by his enemies? Does this mean all hardships of life are the direct result of our sin? What does David mention about God's character that makes God worthy of our trust, confidence, and hope?
- How is God's steadfast love (*hesed*) for his people realized in the advent of Jesus Christ? Reference Luke 2:25-32, 36-38. Discuss how the gospel is our source of comfort when we face enemies (external and internal). Reference Romans 8:31-39. What are some practical ways we can share the hope and comfort of the gospel in our communities during this Advent season?