

SUMMER IN THE PSALMS

Cries in the Desert

Message 1

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► Outline

Teach us to realize the brevity of life, so that we may grow in wisdom.

Psalm 90:12 (NLT)

A. When wandering in the wilderness, we must:

1. _____ **God's sovereignty.**
(Psalm 90:1-6. C/R: 1 Chronicles 29:11-12;
Revelation 22:13)

2. _____ **in humility.**
(Psalm 90:7-11. C/R: Job 42:2-6; Acts 3:19)

3. _____ **on God's mercy.**
(Psalm 90:12-17. C/R: Luke 18:9-14; 1 Timothy 1:16; Titus 3:5)

B. We rely on God's mercy, asking Him to:

1. _____ **His wisdom.**
(Psalm 90:12. C/R: Proverbs 1:7; 3:5-7;
1 Corinthians 3:18; James 1:5; 3:17)

2. _____ **our relationship.**
(Psalm 90:13-15. C/R: Joel 2:25; Zechariah 9:12;
Romans 8:28; James 4:8)

3. _____ **His purpose in us.**
(Psalm 90:16-17. C/R: Psalm 138:8; John 15:5;
Ephesians 2:10)

Answers: A. 1. Recognize 2. Repent 3. Rely B. 1. Reveal 2. Revive 3. Renew

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► Discussion Guide

Use this guide by yourself or with friends to pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus. To connect with others, visit brookwoodchurch.org/adults.

Conversation Starter

If you only had 2 weeks to live, what's one thing you must do?

Prayer

Pause in quiet for a few moments to allow the presence of God to settle into your heart and mind. Ask God to teach you and speak to you as you study and reflect on this week's lesson.

Bible Study and Group Discussion

Read Psalm 90.

1. The term *home* (vs. 1) can also be translated *refuge* or *dwelling place*. Does this fit your image of God? Why or why not?
2. How have you experienced God as a refuge, shelter or protection?
3. In what ways do you feel homeless?
4. What imagery is used in this Psalm to highlight the smallness of man and the bigness of God? Which word-picture or idea strikes you as most significant? Why?
5. One of the central themes of this Psalm is that life is short. Death is near at hand. What comes to mind when you think about the brevity of life?
6. How can thinking about the shortness of life help you grow in wisdom?
7. What makes life worth living?
8. What fears do you have about your future? What parts of this Psalm bring you encouragement and hope?

9. Moses knew well God's fury, anger and wrath (vs. 7-10). What do you think enabled him to keep strong in faith?
10. Jesus died so we could escape God's judgment and wrath (see Isaiah 53:4-10 and Romans 5:8-9). How does this change your heart's response to this Psalm?
11. Moses concludes this Psalm with six specific prayers. What are they? Which of these seems most significant to you right now? Why?
12. Moses emphasized his final prayer by repeating twice *make our efforts successful*. Why do you think he ended this Psalm in that way?

Spiritual Practice

A spiritual practice is something we can do to help us live in and enjoy God's grace. Our hope is that these would become a regular part of your life, so that walking and talking with God is the most natural thing you do.

Meditate on different parts of Psalm 90 this week. Pay careful attention to the imagery and specific phrases that seem to jump off the page as you read. Use the thoughts and emotions that stir in you to guide your conversations with God. May God remind you often that He is your refuge and strength.

Memory Verse

Teach us to realize the brevity of life, so that we may grow in wisdom.

Psalm 90:12 (NLT)

Daily Reading

- Day 1: 1 Chronicles 29:11-12 Day 4: Proverbs 3:5-8
Day 2: Revelation 22:13 Day 5: Zechariah 9:9-13
Day 3: 1 Timothy 1:15-17

Prepare for Next Sunday

Next Sunday, July 23, we'll continue the series *Summer in the Psalms*. To prepare, read **Psalm 1**.

