



SONGS OF THE
KING

STUDIES IN PSALM 16, PSALM 2 & PSALM 8

The book of Psalms makes up about 10% of the Old Testament by length yet about 25% of the Old Testament quotes in the New Testament come from it. The New Testament quotes the Psalms more than any other Old Testament book. Jesus himself quotes the Psalms more than any other Old Testament book.

It would therefore seem that to fully know Jesus we must also know the Psalms.

In this set of studies we will seek to know Jesus better by diving into three of the most quoted Psalms of the New Testament. In each study we will also listen to a musical rendition of the psalm being studied. That's because the Psalms were originally written to be sung. They are intended to engage our feelings as well as our minds.

As with any study, you'll get the most out of them if you're able to read the relevant passage and answer the questions before your group meets. That will also equip you to best encourage the others in your group with what you say. However, if some weeks you don't get to prepare, please don't use that as an excuse to not go along. Just being there is a great way of showing the group that they're important to you. Plus, the studies are designed to be useful even if you're thinking about them for the first time at your group.

Psalm 16

Read Psalm 16

1) What is the mood of the psalm? How does it make you feel? How does it achieve this?

2) Why does David praise God in this psalm? List as many reasons as you can.

3) Can you identify any key movements of thought in the psalm?

4) Read Acts 2:22-32. How do these verses help us understand Psalm 16 in a new light?

5) Use the QR code to listen to a musical version of Psalm 16. Do you think this version correctly captures the mood of the psalm? Give reasons.



Think it over

- How does Psalm 16 help us better appreciate Jesus?

- What do you think it means to “take refuge” in God (v1)? What are some ways we can encourage each other to do that?

- What is the most comforting or challenging thing you’ve discovered in Psalm 16?

Read Psalm 2

1) What is the mood of the psalm? How does it make you feel? How does it achieve this?

2) Can you identify any key movements of thought in the psalm?.

3) What do you think is the key lesson of the psalm?

4) Read Acts 2:29-41. How does Peter use Psalm 2?

5) Use the QR code to listen to a musical version of Psalm 2. Do you think this version correctly captures the mood of the psalm? Give reasons.



Think it over

- How do you see the attitude of "the kings of the earth" in verse 2 being lived out in today's world?

- What is the most comforting or challenging thing you've discovered in Psalm 2?

- How does Psalm 2 help us better understand Jesus?

Read Psalm 8

1) What is the mood of the psalm? How does it make you feel? How does it achieve this?

2) What do you think it means that God's glory is "above" the heavens? (v1).

3) Can you identify any key movements of thought in the psalm?

4) Read Matthew 21:12-17. What does Jesus use this psalm to do?

5) Use the QR code to listen to a musical version of Psalm 8. Do you think this version correctly captures the mood of the psalm? Give reasons.



Think it over

- How does Psalm 8 challenge the way our culture sees the place of humans in the world?
- In what ways do we have even more reason to praise God than King David did in this psalm?
- Is praising God part of your lifestyle? What are some ways it can be? Try and be specific and practical.