



## WEEKLY STUDY

### ***Summer of Psalms - Week 1***

We are going to spend the summer with the book of Psalms. The Psalms are a collection of prayer-songs that have been used by God's people for thousands of years. They touch on the full gamut of human emotion. They give us words that sound like our own, and they seem to echo the groans and cries of our hearts. We're going to change up the rhythm of our study guide for the summer and pray the same Psalm each day throughout the week. Spend extra time reflecting on God's Word to you. May these Psalms give you life and hope this summer!

Please note our prayer focus for the week in the box below. Join us in seeing what God will do as we unite in prayer.

Peace of Christ,  
Pastor Mark Youngman

If you are studying with your Providence Small Group or Discipleship Group, you can share from your own daily reflections and consider the Group Discussion questions below. If you would like to get connected visit [prov.church/smallgroups](http://prov.church/smallgroups).

Prayer Focus:

- Pray for those who are struggling with faith—those who wonder if they'll ever hear from God. Pray for them to be drawn towards God's Word.
- Pray for those who experience grief or loss on Mother's Day.

## DAILY STUDY

**MONDAY: PSALM 1 (NIV)**

*Blessed is the one*

*who does not walk in step with the wicked  
or stand in the way that sinners take  
or sit in the company of mockers,*

<sup>2</sup>*but whose delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and who meditates on his law day and night.*

<sup>3</sup>*That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,  
which yields its fruit in season  
and whose leaf does not wither—  
whatever they do prospers.*

<sup>4</sup>*Not so the wicked!*

*They are like chaff  
that the wind blows away.*

<sup>5</sup>*Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.*

<sup>6</sup>*For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.*

- The Hebrew word for “Wicked” is *rasha* and it refers to those who go against God’s law and do not repent. What does it look like in 2026 to walk in step with the wicked? We are often guilty of using a term like “wicked” to label those with whom we disagree. What characteristics would be more universally accepted as defining the “wicked”?
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- **Prayer Prompt: As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! (Ezekiel 33.11)**
- *God, lead me along the path of righteousness even though I myself am prone to turn away from your perfect law. I repent and turn to you. Amen.*

## **TUESDAY: PSALM 1 (NIV)**

- Most of us were raised to have a certain level of respect for the law. Civil law was something you knew you weren’t supposed to cross. You might be grateful for the law when it seeks to right a wrong that has been done to you, but it would sound strange to say that you “delight in the law”. But God’s law is not punitive. It is an extension of God’s love for us. Do you meditate on God’s law day and night? If there are gaps in your attentiveness to God’s word, what might be behind those gaps?

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- **Prayer Prompt: My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. (John 10.27)**
  - *God, tune my heart to hear and know your voice. Let me see the kindness in the gift of your law. Let me delight in living under it. Amen.*

### **WEDNESDAY: PSALM 1 (NIV)**

- The psalmist gives us the image of a tree planted by streams of water—whatever they do prospers. When we have a bad day, we can still prosper as long as we are planted in the right place—near the source of living water. Jesus invites us to abide in him. What are the signs that you are abiding in him? What are some indicators that you might be drying up spiritually?
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- **Prayer Prompt: Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. (John 15.4)**
- *God, I confess that my roots do not always draw from the nourishment you offer to me. Help me to abide in Christ so that I might live and prosper. Amen.*

### **THURSDAY: PSALM 1 (NIV)**

- Have you ever seen a combine in a field of grain? When the harvest takes place in a dry season, it produces a cloud of dust. The farmer hopes that all of the good stuff is captured for use or for sale, but has to deal with the immense mess of the chaff. Psalm 1 says that the wicked are like chaff that the wind blows away. If we are planted far from the water source, we will wither up and blow away. Does this ring true in your experience? What would the drought report say about the conditions of your heart right now?
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- **Prayer Prompt: You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water. (Psalm 63.1)**
  - *Lord, may I earnestly seek you today. Stir up my longing for you, and satisfy my thirst with your presence. Amen.*

#### **FRIDAY: PSALM 1 (NIV)**

- Do you ever have the sinking feeling that you are out of place? Like you don't belong with the company you are keeping? The psalmist wrote that wicked do not stand in the assembly of the righteous. They are so out of place among the righteous that they can't stand to remain there. This is why God desires for us to be planted near his life-giving waters, God wants a relationship with us. God wants you and I to stand in the company of the righteous. Where is this image of the wicked and the righteous reflected in today's world?
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- **Prayer Prompt: But there they are, overwhelmed with dread, for God is present in the company of the righteous. (Psalm 14.5)**
- *Lord God, I want to be confident in my place among the righteous, and yet I can only be made righteous by you. Give me Jesus, the only One who can usher me into your presence. Amen.*

#### **SATURDAY: PSALM 1 (NIV)**

- Psalm 1.6 says, *the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.*

God watches over the righteous but the wicked are on the path to destruction. Notice how God watches over the righteous path, but the other path can still be chosen. This gives us a clear distinction between God's way and our own way. Why is it that we can not always tell the difference?

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- **Prayer Prompt: small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it. (Matthew 7.14)**
  - *God, your word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. Light up the road which leads me closer to your way. Amen.*

## **GROUP DISCUSSION**

As a group, commit to reading a Psalm each day for the next 150 days (until October). You may have received a handout at Providence that will help you to keep track. When you come together as a small group, share with one another the ways in which God is speaking to you through each Psalm.

**This week: Psalms 1-7.**

Does this Psalm reflect your words to God?

What is God saying to you through this Psalm?

Is there something you are invited to do in response to this Psalm?