

The Psalms of David

*Franklin Christian Church
Fall 2017 Life Group Study*



Psalm 22 (Week of Oct. 8; 2 Sam. 11)

Introduction: This Psalm of David fits well into the story of David's adultery with Bathsheba, but from a different perspective. While the psalm reflects a time where God has rescued him from evil, it could also be read from Uriah's perspective during the events of 2 Samuel 11. From this perspective, we might find another, colder, aspect of David's heart since David helped cause Uriah's suffering to cover for his own act of adultery.

Have a group member read the psalm aloud. Group members with Bibles can follow along and note anything that stands out.

1. While reflecting on the events described in 2 Samuel 11, reflect on Psalm 22:1-2. Can we relate this cry to Uriah? How does Jesus use this passage?
2. Even as he begins this psalm with a bold question, the psalmist acknowledges God's power in vv. 3-5. Read all of vv. 1-5 again and reflect together on a times in your lives where God has felt far away. Perhaps while God seemed close to others, God felt far from you. Does it feel strange to voice these concerns and complaints? Why or why not?

3. As we try and relate this Psalm to 2 Samuel 11, we might imagine Uriah's imminent death while we read verses 11-17. How can we relate these metaphors to the story? Are these metaphors relevant in your own lives? You may also spend some time relating these verses (and 18-19) to Jesus's death.

4. Psalms were read in numerous locations, but they took prominence in the assembled worship at the temple. Looking to v. 25, we see the psalmist likely intended this verse as an expression of thanks to God for deliverance for that assembly. While you're in the assembly of your life group, is there anything you would like to praise God for? Perhaps something he's delivered you from that no one else could?

5. Despite the circumstances of Psalm 22, and the state of David's heart in 2 Samuel 11, there is hope for the future. Read Psalm 22:26-31. What would you say is the general attitude of the psalmist here? How is this different from the beginning? What might have happened in between, and can we relate to this transformation?

6. What does 2 Samuel 11 reveal about David's heart? What does the story and then the Psalm reveal about God's heart? What has this Psalm revealed in your hearts?