

# The Psalms of David

*Franklin Christian Church  
Fall 2017 Life Group Study*



## Psalm 63 (Week of Oct. 22)

**Introduction:** 2 Samuel 13-18 describes several family difficulties that David must contend with as king. Often times, dealing with estranged family can seem impossibly difficult. Psalm 63 describes a challenging season of David's life, where enemies sought his destruction and his situation seemed hopeless. The psalm here poetically emphasizes the importance of relying on God and hints at the practical outcomes of doing so as an individual and a community.

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

1. Ancient Israel had no shortage of arid mountains and deserts, so when we read verse 1, we can imagine the metaphorically "dry and parched land" that David envisions around himself. Discuss past, present, or future seasons in your own life where you feel like "there is no water," as you may thirst for God. Do you think there are seasons in a church's life where there is no water?
2. Verses 2-3 seem to offer a contrast to the parched land as David remembers the sanctuary. When does corporate worship most quench your thirst for God? Why do you think that is? Can we balance personal desires for worship and the needs of the community as a whole?

3. The attitude produced by seeing God in the sanctuary leads to praise (v. 4), satisfaction (v. 5), and remembrance (v. 6). Verse six references a distinctly individual act of prayer/meditation through the night. While the sanctuary may be a communal “oasis” in the parched land of v. 1, what are some personal oases for yourself throughout the week? After discussing personal oases, consider how these could relate to worshiping in the sanctuary on Sunday morning.

4. Verses 7-8 help to define the emotional significance of verse 1’s earnest tone. Read vv. 7-8 and discuss the practical significance of “clinging to God.” How do we cling to God, and why would we?

5. Read verses 9-11, which we can relate to the stories in 2 Samuel 13-18. Even as David faces difficult decisions regarding his family in the stories, we can acknowledge that his trust in God overshadows his worries. Discuss how the conversations we have started today can reinforce our trust in God. For example, what does going to church or nightly prayer have to do with trusting that “the mouths of liars will be silenced?”

6. What does this psalm reveal about David’s heart? What about God’s heart? What has this revealed in your hearts?