

GOD KNOWING

*selections from the
PSALMS*

KNOWING GOD: PSALM 1

Mercy Church Community Group Guide

This study guide is to help individuals and groups learn and apply the truths of Scripture to where you are in life right now. To get the most from this study guide, work through it on your own before gathering with your community group. If you aren't in a community group yet, consider attending the next Starting Point at Mercy Church. You can take the next steps to connect with a community group there. RSVP at mercycharlotte.com.

As we begin the New Year together, we have the joy of studying the Psalms together. We desire to be a church that does not simply know about God, but rather knows God in an intimate way. We want to emulate Him in all things. This week, we will begin in Psalm 1. Psalm 1 presents two paths for our lives. First, those who follow the Lord and trust in Christ for their salvation will be with him for eternity. God will be their true delight. Those who walk in wickedness against God without repentance will be separated from Him forever. They will attempt to fill their lives with the blessings of God that do not satisfy in the way only God can.

The Psalm helps us see the progression of each lifestyle, both now and for eternity. It is also evident that true joy is only available to us through relationship with Christ. God calls us to experience Him in full surrender and commitment to His way. When others look at us, they should see that our true joy is in the Lord. Psalm 1 helps us see that, as disciples, we must let our mind, our behaviors, and our identity be shaped by the Word of God.

REFLECTION

1. How would you define joy?
2. Where do you typically try to find joy?

BIBLE STUDY

The following questions will help you work through the passage.

Read Psalm 1

- 3) How does the Psalm describe the way of the world?**
- 4) How does Psalm 1 show the progression of living by the way of the world?**
- 5) Why do we seek happiness from things other than Christ?**
- 6) How have you experienced the frustration of pursuing worldly happiness?**
- 7) How did that experience shape you as a person?**
- 8) How does the Psalm show us the progression of true delight in Christ in our lives?**
- 9) What are some ways the text says we can delight in the Lord?**
- 10) How does a deep relationship with God through Christ transform your understanding of delight?**
- 11) How have you seen your relationship with Christ guide you through a difficult time?**
- 12) What steps are you taking to strengthen your relationship with Christ?**

13) What is God calling you to do to move more toward true joy in Him?

Prayer

Prayer is an essential component of your life as a follower of Christ, and an integral part of any healthy church body.

- 1) Thank God that you have the greatest blessing in Christ (Romans 5:6-11)**
- 2) Pray for areas in your own life where you seek worldly happiness**
- 3) Pray to know God, not simply know about God**