

LESSON 13

# WHO IS THE KING OF GLORY?

## *Psalm 24*

*A psalm of David.*

<sup>1</sup>The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof,  
the world and those who dwell therein,  
<sup>2</sup> for he has founded it upon the seas  
and established it upon the rivers.

<sup>3</sup>Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?  
And who shall stand in his holy place?  
<sup>4</sup>He who has clean hands and a pure heart,  
who does not lift up his soul to what is false  
and does not swear deceitfully.  
<sup>5</sup>He will receive blessing from the Lord  
and righteousness from the God of his salvation.  
<sup>6</sup>Such is the generation of those who seek him,  
who seek the face of the God of Jacob. *Selah*

<sup>7</sup>Lift up your heads, O gates!  
And be lifted up, O ancient doors,  
that the King of glory may come in.

<sup>8</sup>Who is this King of glory?  
The Lord, strong and mighty,  
the Lord, mighty in battle!

<sup>9</sup>Lift up your heads, O gates!  
And lift them up, O ancient doors,  
that the King of glory may come in.

<sup>10</sup>Who is this King of glory?  
The Lord of hosts,  
he is the King of glory! *Selah*

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## **WELCOME:** *Fixing Our Focus*

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**Leader:** Ask your group members the following questions and have them share their answers with the group:

- Who is your favorite hero? (Real, reel or read life)
- What are the attributes of your favorite hero?
- What makes him/her distinct from the other heroes?

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## **WORSHIP:** *Adoring Our God*

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Suggested songs:

*Hosanna* by Hillsong Worship  
*A Pure Heart* by Rusty Nelson

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## **WORD:** *Understanding the Word*

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### **Introduction**

As soon as you wake up each Sunday, what do you look forward to in going to church? Is it the message; the songs that give God glory or the fellowship of many believers? As the hours tick closer to the scheduled church service that you have chosen, what has become your focus? Traffic? Parking slot? Gifts that need to be left at the reception?

As soon as your foot stepped into the church building, who has gotten much of your attention? The ushers, your friends, loved ones, the pastors, or your growth group mates?

Psalm 24 is an ascension liturgy that is believed to have been sung by Levites as worshipers climb to the tabernacle/temple on Mt. Moriah (Source: <https://bible.org/seriespage/psalm-24>). The song presents us with what worship is so that the main Hero—the one we should give our focused attention to and who we ought to always look forward to, can take His rightful place not just on Sundays but every day.

*Leader:* Lead in reading Psalm 24 aloud together. Then read the paragraph on the “Key Verse.”

*Key Verse:* The key to understand this psalm is verse 10: “Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory.”

**Psalm 24:1-2. Theme:** \_\_\_\_\_

1. What is the declaration of David in verse 1? What does “the fullness thereof” and “those who dwell therein” include?
2. What made David say that the earth, and all that belongs to it, is the Lord’s (v. 2)?
3. David said that the earth was “founded upon the seas.” Rather than making a scientific assertion, what was David saying here?

*In the space above, write what you think is the theme of verses 1-2.*

**Psalm 24:3-6. Theme:** \_\_\_\_\_

1. While it is true that God claims ownership of the earth and all who live on it, not everyone could stand in his holy presence. Who can? Explain each of the four descriptions given by David (v. 4).

2. How do we know that these descriptions assert that a right standing before God cannot be achieved by human effort (v. 5)?

3. What is the significance of Jacob's name being mentioned in verse 6?

*In the space above, write what you think is the theme of verses 3-6.*

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**It is interesting to note that before transitioning to the remaining verses, the psalmist ended the phrase with *Selah*, that in Hebrew, may also mean forgive. It denotes either God forgiving the person or the person forgiving others. *Selah* can also mean pause.**

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**Psalm 24:7-10. Theme:** \_\_\_\_\_

1. Why did David command that the gates be opened/lifted (vv. 7, 9)?

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2. How is God described in these verses? What truths do these descriptions convey to the worshipers?

*In the space above, write what you think is the theme of verses 7-10.*

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**The gates/ancient doors must refer to the gates of Jerusalem at the temple (Ps. 24:3). They are personified so as to greet the King of glory, YHWH, as He comes to His house/temple after a victory. It is probable that a procession with the ark of the covenant symbolized YHWH's coming back to the temple. Notice all the commands\*.**

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\*<https://bible.org/seriespage/psalm-24>

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## **WALK:** *Applying the Word*

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**Leader:** After studying the passage, let the group pause and meditate for at least two minutes on the verses. Ask each participant to share an attribute of God that resounded during the study of the Word.

### **Questions for Adults**

1. Four requirements for ascending to the God's holy hill—a. clean hands b. a pure heart c. who has not lifted up his soul to falsehood and d. and has not sworn deceitfully. Is this really possible?

In the Old Testament times, a high priest is the only one who can offer a sacrifice to atone for the sins of the people. Hebrews 10:19-22 says that because of what Jesus did on the cross, those who earnestly seek and believe in Him can confidently enter God's holy place. Pause again and individually thank Jesus Christ for what He has done to unite you with God the Father.

2. What are some practical ways we can honor Jesus Christ for what he has done for us? What can we do in order to continue having clean hands and a pure heart? How can we make Jesus Christ our only Lord and Savior and be truthful in all our dealings?
3. In Gematria (an alphanumeric code of assigning value to a Hebrew word), 24 means to "hope for" or "the fullness". It is no coincidence that Psalm 24 likewise talks of a Lord who is victorious.
  - a. How has meditating on Psalm 24 changed the way you will worship the returning King?
  - b. How will you live a life that is victorious in Christ Jesus? Share your commitments and pray for each other.

4. Pray for GCF (Prayer requests supplied by the Leader).

### **Questions for the Youth**

1. King David described God as the King of glory. What does it mean to be glorious? How is God glorious above other things? Write down three ways.
2. In what ways can you give the honor that is due to God? What are the talents and skills God has blessed you with? How can you use them to give him glory?
3. What are some things or people in your life that vie for honor that God deserves? Why do you have a tendency to honor them instead of God and how can you overcome this tendency?

### **Questions for Children**

1. Worship means to live for the King of Glory in all that you do. It is not just singing songs to him on Sundays but it is also how you behave in school and at home. How can you worship the Lord in school and at home? List down at least 3 examples.
2. Think of your generation—the kids at school, in your neighborhood, those you see on television and in the movies. Describe them. Are they the kind of kids who seek the Lord? Pray for your generation because you are the next set of leaders for our country and church.
3. What are the kind of things you think about? Do you wish bad things for other people, especially those you don't like? Verse 4 says that God wants us to be pure and clean. Take time now to pray and ask the Lord for forgiveness for your sins.