

DON'T BE AFRAID!

PSALM 27

MAIN TAKEAWAY

Faith overcomes fear. You can face your fears in God's strength because the presence of our heavenly Father can dispel all fear, worry, and anxiety.

INTRODUCTION

As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.

In your experience, what are people most afraid of? Why? How do people typically deal with fear and worry?

Pastor Greg said, "When faith walks in, worry walks out; but when worry steps in, faith walks out." Why don't fear and faith get along? In having a relationship with the Lord, how have you seen faith overcome fear?

UNDERSTANDING

Unpack the biblical text to discover what the Scripture says or means about a particular topic.

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ PSALM 27:1-6

Face your fears in God's strength, not your own. When you are afraid in the dark, turn on the light (v.1). How did David face his fears? Like light shining in darkness, how does God's presence dispel fear, worry, and anxiety?

God is bigger than our enemies (vv.2-3) and promises to keep us safe in His protection (v.5). What was the source of David's confidence? Like David, how might remembering God's past faithfulness provide strength for present fears?

David knew that the main thing was to keep the main thing the main thing (vv.4-5). What is the "one thing" David desired? What does this reveal about David's relationship with God? How does this inspire you to worship the Lord?

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ PSALM 27:7-14

Pastor Greg said, "A danger in life is to permit the urgent things to crowd out the important things. If we don't focus on that one thing, we will end up doing everything, and accomplish nothing" (vv.7-8). How are you learning to seek God first (Matthew 6:33)? What happens when you lose focus on what matters most?

***Your heavenly Father will never abandon you (vv.9-10).* How does knowing that God will never leave or forsake you bring comfort in hardship (Deuteronomy 31:8; Hebrews 13:5-6)? How does Jesus' death and resurrection assure this (Romans 8:37-39)?**

***Take courage and continue to follow the Lord (vv.13-14).* After being chosen in his youth, David had to wait fifteen years until he became the king of Israel. How did David keep the right perspective and trust God's timing? What are some advantages of waiting on God (Isaiah 40:31)?**

APPLICATION

Help your group identify how the truths from the Scripture passage apply directly to their lives.

How do you face your fears? In what ways do you want to grow in trusting God, and how does longing for fellowship with God help you do this (vv.4, 8)? How has God always been there for you?

Like David (v.4), Mary and Martha (Luke 10:41-42), and Paul (Philippians 3:13-14), what is the "one thing" you need to focus on in making time for the Lord? How can you keep the main thing the main thing?

In explaining God's promises and protection, Pastor Greg said, "God will never allow anything to touch us that does not have some kind of purpose, and He certainly will never let anything happen that would separate us from His love for us. God either did it or allowed it for His glory and our ultimate good" (Romans 8:28, 38-39). How do these truths give you confidence to trust God's plan for your life? In moments of fear, how can you practically turn panic into prayer and worry into worship?

PRAYER

Give thanks to God that you don't have to be afraid. Pray that you will face your fears in God's strength, trusting in His promises for you and His presence with you. Ask for wisdom to keep the main thing the main thing. Praise God for being your light and salvation.