Scripture: Psalm 122. Date: July 13, 2025

OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about us?

a) Have you ever felt disconnected from the church? Would you say you feel about the church the way David feels about Jerusalem in this Psalm? Does Psalm 122:1 reflect your attitude toward church?

2. What does this passage teach us about God?

a) According to Psalm 122, what character traits of God were present in the city of Jerusalem?

b) In Psalm 122, how does David demonstrate that God is at the center of his worship and not the literal city of Jerusalem or the physical temple?

3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

a) Read John 2:13-22. In what way is Jesus the true "temple" of God?

b) How does Psalm 122 reflect gospel (God does everything for us) rather than law (we do things for God)? How does it point ahead to the church?

APPLICATION

a) Read Ephesians 2:22 and Hebrews 12:8-24. In Christ, we are God's temple and we have come to spiritual Jerusalem. What would the church look like if we were to "be what we are" in regards to being God's spiritual temple and spiritual Jerusalem? Be specific.

b) We gave several reasons to go to church from Psalm 122: Go for the communal joy (v.1); go to worship and give thanks (v.4); go for justice, go for peace (v.5); go to pray, proclaim; and do good (v.6-9). Which of these stands out to you or motivates you to stay connected to the church?

PRAYER

- Praise God for making us his dwelling place.
- Confess ways that you have lost the joy of being connected to the church.
- Thank Jesus for being our final sacrifice so that we only bring the "sacrifice of praise" to him in church.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help you to find your peace and security in Christ and his people.