

Sermon: Joyfully Ever After.
Series: Psalms of Ascent.

Scripture: Psalm 125-126.
Date: July 27, 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 God?

- a) How is God described in Psalm 125? What divine character traits stand out to you?
- b) Read Psalm 125:1-2. When have you experienced the protection of the Lord described in these verses? In the sermon we said that the only dangers that come to God's people are the ones that he allows. Do you agree with this thought? Why or why not?

2. What does this passage teach us about us?

- a) Read Psalm 145:3. Where can you identify the "scepter of wickedness" ruling over our world today? In what ways does the "scepter of wickedness" tempt us to "reach out our hand and do wrong?"
- b) Read Psalm 125:4-5. Where do you see yourself in these two verses?

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

- a) How does the cry for peace at the end of Psalm 125 point to the need for Christ? Consider the following scriptures together concerning Jesus and our peace: Isaiah 9:6-7; 53:5; Romans 5:1; Philippians 4:7. How did Jesus accomplish our peace in the past and now in the present?
- b) Psalm 126:3 – "The lord has done great things for us." Together, list some of the great things that the Lord Jesus has done for us. Use Ephesians 1:3-2:10 as your prompt if needed.

APPLICATION

- a) Psalm 126 describes a life sowing in tears and reaping in joy. Where can you see this dynamic at work in your life? What seeds have you been sowing in tears? What harvest has God allowed you to reap in joy? OR...In what way has your journey with Christ been full of both joy and sorrow, laughter and weeping? Why is it important that the Christian experience both at the same time?
- b) Read Revelation 22:1-5. How does this view of our future give you hope and rest personally? How might it bring you peace and joy in the midst of a specific trial you are facing?

PRAYER

- Praise God for his presence, power, and protection.
- Confess ways that you have "reached out your hand to do wrong."
- Thank Jesus for being our peace with God and the peace of God.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help you to both sow in tears and reap in joy.