



SDG Discussion Guide

Psalm 135

March 29, 2020

For starters:

How are you? What is a loss for you at this time? What is a gain? What is something new coming in for you at this time? Take plenty of time to listen to your group members share.

Have you ever inherited anything? In light of the current global crisis, what would you like to inherit someday?

Guideline:

First, as you can, read aloud and slowly **Psalm 135** in your group. As time permits, read it again in another Bible translation.

Before you begin your discussion, pray, and ask God to enlighten you, showing where he has been at work and present in your previous days through places, events, people. Pause in your prayer and listen. Then, ask Him to speak to your group now. Notice, what may God be bringing to your group for both collective and individual revelation and discussion?

Now that you have prayed, please see the following questions that may assist you in your discussion.

1. To whom is the call or worship addressed (vv 1-2)? What three reasons are given for praising the Lord (vv 3-4)?
2. What title for God would you draw from verses 5-7? From verses 8-12?
3. What does it mean to “vindicate his people” (v 14; see Deut 32:36)?
4. What is the difference between the Lord and idols (vv 15-17)? If idols are so important, why would anyone worship them? How does the worshipper - of God or idol - become like the object of worship?
5. What is the significance of the four groups called to praise God (vv 19-20)?
6. In your usual prayers, are you generally God’s servant or is God yours? What does it mean for you to be a servant of the Lord?
7. How do ancient day and modern-day idols differ? How are they alike? In whom or what do you place your trust [where you spend your time and money is an indication of where you place your trust of faith]? How have you become somewhat like that in which you trust?
8. How would you rewrite verses 15-18 to reflect modern idols? Brainstorm some ideas in your group.
9. What is most pleasant or a delight for you about praising God?

Prayer:

Lord, we continue to humbly seek you during this particular time in world history. In a way, most everything has changed; in another way, when it comes to you, nothing has changed. You are still the first and last, and the living one; you were once dead, and behold, you are still alive forever and ever, and you have the keys of death and life. Truly, truly you are over all and through all and in all. You have never known what it is not to be sovereign or in loving control of your creation and people. Come Lord Jesus ever more into the reality of our day in such a way we realize anew that you are with us. We do trust you for our today and our tomorrow. Continue to heighten our delight in praising you as you bring us through this time doing what only you can, in Jesus’ name, amen.

*The discussion questions were adapted from *The Serendipity Bible for Groups* (Zondervan, 1998).