

SDG Discussion Guide

Psalm 150 April 5, 2020

For starters:

How are you since the last time we talked? Has anything changed much for you or your family? What is the hardest thing for you right now?

What circumstances or feelings in the last year or months have, however momentarily, made a praising person out of you? Reflect on that time again and offer insight.

How do you like to praise the Lord at home or in private?

Guideline:

First, as you can, read aloud and slowly **Psalm 150** 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, to show you where he has been at work and present in your previous days through places, events, and 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. How many times is the word praise used in the psalm?
- 2. Verse 1 tells us *where* the Lord is to be praised. What is the meaning of "in his sanctuary" and "in his mighty heavens"?
- 3. Verse 2 tells us why he is to be praised. What reasons does the psalmist give?
- 4. Verses 3-5 tell us *how* to praise the Lord. As you read these verses, what kind of scene do you imagine?
- 5. What is significant about "breath" (v 6; see Gen 2:7)?
- 6. There are no shortcuts to praise. We can see this in many psalms that express pain. What difficult circumstances in your life have found their way into praise?
- 7. Augustine claimed that a "Christian should be a hallelujah from head to foot." What needs to be done to get to that point.

Prayer:

Gather the reflections and insights that have come from your study and turn them into a time of concluding and celebrative praise. Spend plenty of time praising God aloud for each other.

*The discussion questions were adapted from The NIV Quiet Time Bible (IVCF, 196).