



## SDG Discussion Guide

### Psalm 90

November 4, 2018

For starters:

What is your earliest memory ever? Why do you think this incident has stuck in your mind?

Who do you consider a wise person and why?

Read aloud Psalm 90. Reader(s) A, read verses 1-8. Reader(s) B, read verses 9-16. All together, read verse 17.

Interaction with the text: Feel free to forward the questions to your small group members ahead of the respective Sunday. Group members may also find these questions in print on that Sunday.

As you can, read aloud the passage in your group; read it aloud a second time but from a different Bible translation (eg, read from the Message after first reading from the ESV). Before you begin your discussion, pray and ask God to speak to your group. Notice, what may God be highlighting for your discussion and learning?

Now that you have read the text together, what points and questions arose? Spend plenty of time in your group to address these. Explore and see how God may steer the discussion. The following are further questions for interaction.

1. At what point in his life do you think Moses wrote this Psalm? What place did he consider home (v 1)?
2. How do God and humans differ (vv 3-6)?
3. Life is short. What else is the matter with it (vv 7-9)? What picture of God comes in verse 7? Why is humanity full of "trouble and sorrow"?
4. Why is God so angry (v 11)? How should Moses feel, being barred from the Promised Land (see Dt 32:50-52; Nu 20:6-13)? Do you think his mood would be different if he knew of the resurrection and life everlasting?
5. What does it mean to "number our days aright"?
6. What different requests are made of God (vv 13-17)? Does the final request remove the futility? What gives ultimate purpose to our endeavors?
7. Would you call this psalm pessimistic? Realistic? Encouraging? Why? Have you ever considered life something that God has "afflicted" you with?
8. Are you "teachable"? In what situations are you most resistant?

Spend some time in prayer. Ask God to continue to speak to you from his word in this passage. Continue to thank Him for His presence in your life. Ask Him for insight and guidance for where and how to concentrate your time this season. Go forth once more with the knowledge and conviction of the power of the Lord God Almighty - both with you and for you.

\*These questions were adapted from *The Serendipity Bible for Groups* (Zondervan, 1998) and other sources.