



DIGGING DEEPER

Psalm 147 – Praise the God of the Church

PLEASE READ – Psalm 147

GETTING STARTED

Discuss the following statement... *'If we belong to Jesus we belong to the church'*

From what we read in this Psalm – how do we know that 'Jerusalem' (v2 and v12) refers ultimately to God's people not the physical city?

1) PRAISE THE GOD WHO... GATHERS HIS CHURCH (V1-6)

What does God do for his people in v2-3? In what ways is Jesus the fulfilment of those words? (see especially John 10v14-16)

Chat about the illustration from creation in v4-5... Also think about Genesis 15v4-5 and Isaiah 40v25-26. Why then does the Psalmist talk about the stars?

What's the point of the contrast in v6 and how does it encourage you?

2) PRAISE THE GOD WHO... PROVIDES FOR HIS CHURCH (V7-11)

We see a similar pattern in this next section. A call to praise (v7), an illustration from creation (v8-9) and a contrast (v10-11). Talk about each...

Read Luke 12v24 and discuss, as you think through the application of these verses...

How should we respond to God's generous provision? (v10-11) Do we?

3) PRAISE THE GOD WHO... SPEAKS TO HIS CHURCH (V12-20)

Chat about the blessings in v13-14...

God is committed to blessing his people but how does that blessing often come? The illustration from creation is there to help answer that question!

Read Hebrews 12v5-11 and talk about your own experience of that process...

Meditate on the words of Jesus below...

1 Peter 2v9: But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.