

Week 23 – Questions to Consider

Psalm 67 ~ Psalm 68 ~ Psalm 69 ~ Proverbs 15:1-15

Small Group Warm Up Question:

How has your faith impacted you at work or school life?

1. What are some of the ways God has been “gracious” to you? Blessed you? Made “his face to shine upon” you? (Psalm 67:1)
2. What is the purpose of God blessing us according to Psalm 67:2-3? How are you using God’s blessings to make His “way” and “saving power” to be “known on earth”?
3. When should a nation be “glad” according to Psalm 67:4? Should your nation be glad? What are some specific ways we can pray for change in our nation?
4. Why do you think the Psalms distinguishes between the “wicked” and the “righteous” so often? Who are the “wicked” and the “righteous” according to the Bible? Why are there no “in-between” categories? (Psalm 68:1-3)
5. What does it mean that God’s name is “the Lord”? (Psalm 68:4-6) How is God “Father of the fatherless”? How is He “protector of widows”? What does “his holy habitation” mean? Why does God have so many names? Why are the names of God so important to remember? Do you have a favorite name of God?
 - Do you think absent fathers are a big source of problems today? If so, why is God’s name as “Father of the fatherless” even more meaningful here and now? How does this connect to Proverbs 15:5?
6. Why do you think of God’s presence was preceded by earthquakes and downpours of rain? (Psalm 68:7-10) What about the procession of God described in Psalm 68:24-27? How is this a good reminder for us today?
7. Read Psalm 69:1-3. Have you ever been stuck in mud or found yourself drowning and struggling for safety? What did that feel like? What kind of situations in life can give us similar feelings of anxiety, panic or despair? How could Psalm 69:14-15 be a helpful way to pray in similar situations?
8. When Jesus cleanses out the temple of people trying to make money (John 2:13-17), his disciples remember Psalm 69:9, “zeal for your house has consumed me”. What would biblical zeal for the holiness of God look like in our churches today?
9. Why would a praise song and thanksgiving “please the Lord more than an ox or a bull”? (Psalm 69:30) How does this convict or inspire you about your praise and prayer life?

More questions @ www.southfork.church/psalms-proverbs-discussion-guide

The Eyes of the Lord & Your “End Time”

Proverbs 15:3 (ESV)

“The eyes of the LORD are in every place,
keeping watch on the evil and the good.”

“The Eyes of the Lord” - God Is Omniscient

- 1 John 3:20 “he knows everything”
- vs. “the Evil Eye” & the “Hamsa Hand” (Islam & Judaism)

“Are In Every Place” - God Is Omnipresent

- Proverbs 15:11 “Sheol and Abaddon lie open before the LORD; how much more the hearts of the children of man!”
- Psalm 139:7 “Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence?”

“Keeping Watch” - God Is Omnipotent & Just

- Jeremiah 11:20 “But, O LORD of hosts, who judges righteously, who tests the heart and the mind”
- Jeremiah 20:12 “O LORD... who sees the heart and the mind”
- “with God all things are possible” (Matthew 19:26)

“On the Evil”

- Proverbs 15:9,26 “The way of the wicked...The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination to the LORD”
- 1 Peter 3:12 “the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”
- John 3:36 “Whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.”

“And the Good”

- Proverbs 15:8-9 “the prayer of the upright is acceptable to him [the LORD] ... he loves him who pursues righteousness.”
- Proverbs 15:26,29 “The LORD...he hears the prayer of the righteous.”
- 1 Peter 3:12 “For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer.”

6 Truths about Your “End Time” & the Eyes of the Lord

1. Be P_____ for the Judgment of Jesus

- 2 Corinthians 5:10 “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.”
- Revelation 22:12 “Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done.”

2. Aim Your Life Towards Your Future A_____

- 2 Corinthians 5:9-10 “So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.”
- Hebrews 9:27 “And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment”

3. H_____ His Name through the “Obedience of Faith”

- Romans 1:5 “through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations”

4. What God Writes About You Matters F_____

- Revelation 17:8 “the dwellers on earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world will marvel to see the beast”
- Revelation 20:12, 15 “And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done...if anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.”
- Revelation 21:27 “But nothing unclean will ever enter it [New Jerusalem], nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb’s book of life.”

5. Know Your Future - Our W_____ Evidence Our Heart

- John 5:28-29 “Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.”
- Luke 6:43-45 ““For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit, [44] for each tree is known by its own fruit. For figs are not gathered from thornbushes, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush. [45] The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.”

6. Our Works Will Be T_____ - “Of Faith” or “Of Flesh”?

- 1 Corinthians 3:10-15 “According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it. [11] For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. [12] Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw—[13] each one’s work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. [14] If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. [15] If anyone’s work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.”
- Romans 2:6-11 “He will render to each one according to his works: [7] to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life; [8] but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury. [9] There will be tribulation and distress for every human being who does evil, the Jew first and also the Greek, [10] but glory and honor and peace for everyone who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. [11] For God shows no partiality. (ESV)

This Next Week’s Psalms & Proverbs Reading Plan:

Week 24: Psalm 70 ~ Psalm 71 ~ Psalm 72 ~ Proverbs 15:16-33

- **Hope & Purpose in Jesus:** www.southfork.church/jesus
- **Daily Verse by Text Message:** remind.com/join/sfbcd devo
- **Our Plan:** www.southfork.church/2023-bible-reading-plan

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3. **Honor His Name through the “Obedience of Faith”**

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4. **What God Writes About You Matters Forever**

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