

# SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE PSALM 40



Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

# **OBSERVATION**

- 1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
  - What sticks out to you? Consider particular words, phrases, concepts, and themes.
  - Why do these things stick out to you?
  - Does this passage remind you of other Bible passages?
- 2. Examine the context of the passage:
  - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
  - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
  - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
- 3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

## INTERPRETATION

- 4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
- 5. As he waits (v. 1), the psalmist points to the character and activities of God. Why are these same actions so important for us while we wait?

### **APPLICATION**

- 6. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
- 7. What truth about God or promise of God do you need to rehearse this Advent season to help yourself as you wait?

# **FURTHER RESOURCES**

Article: "New Advent Resources: 100-Song Playlist, Books and More" by Brett McCracken

Video: "How is Christmas Good News for a Weary World" by Paul Tripp

Music Album: "Behold the Lamb of God" by Andrew Peterson



# DISCUSSION GUIDE PSALM 27



Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

# **OBSERVATION**

- 1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
  - What sticks out to you? Consider particular words, phrases, concepts, and themes
  - Why do these things stick out to you?
  - Does this passage remind you of other Bible passages?
- 2. Examine the context of the passage:
  - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
  - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
  - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
- 3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

## INTERPRETATION

- 4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
- 5. This psalm talks about enemies (vv. 2-3). Can you and I still apply these verses to our lives if we don't have physical armies (ex. "evildoers," "adversaries," and "foes") against us? If so, how?

### **APPLICATION**

- 6. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
- 7. How can you mirror the bold prayer of David in Psalm 27 this week as you wait for the Lord?

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# JAMES 5:7-8



Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

# **OBSERVATION**

- 1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
  - What sticks out to you? Consider particular words, phrases, concepts, and themes.
  - Why do these things stick out to you?
  - Does this passage remind you of other Bible passages?
- 2. Examine the context of the passage:
  - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
  - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
  - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
- 3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

## INTERPRETATION

- 4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
- 5. What does it mean that "the coming of the Lord is at hand"? Why is this important?

#### APPLICATION

- 6. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
- 7. In what way(s) do you think the Lord is teaching you patience right now? How can you embrace that this week?

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# DISCUSSION GUIDE 2 PETER 3:12-14



Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

# **OBSERVATION**

- 1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
  - What sticks out to you? Consider particular words, phrases, concepts, and themes.
  - Why do these things stick out to you?
  - Does this passage remind you of other Bible passages?
- 2. Examine the context of the passage:
  - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
  - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
  - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
- 3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

## INTERPRETATION

- 4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
- 5. According to these verses, what is God going to do at Jesus's second coming? As you meditate on this future promise, what thoughts, emotions, and reactions come up?

### **APPLICATION**

- 6. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
- 7. This week, what is one way you can help another Christian be "without spot or blemish" or be "at peace" (v. 14) as we wait for Jesus's return? Take steps toward encouraging your brother or sister in Christ in this way.

# **FURTHER RESOURCES**

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Music Album: "Behold the Lamb of God" by Andrew Peterson



# DISCUSSION GUIDE LUKE 2:22-32



Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

# **OBSERVATION**

- 1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
  - What sticks out to you? Consider particular words, phrases, concepts, and themes.
  - Why do these things stick out to you?
  - Does this passage remind you of other Bible passages?
- 2. Examine the context of the passage:
  - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
  - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
  - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
- 3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

## INTERPRETATION

- 4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
- 5. What did God reveal to Simeon when he saw the baby Jesus? If you were Simeon, how might you have felt? What truth from Simeon's blessing stands out to you the most?

### **APPLICATION**

- 6. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
- 7. Like Simeon, when we see the revelation of what we've waited for, it is marvelous. What aspect of Jesus's first coming or his character do you want to praise God for this week? What do you long to experience more of when you see him face-to-face?

## **FURTHER RESOURCES**

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