



## Celebration

### Celebrating God's Security

What holds you back from celebrating? What keeps you from being home and full of joy for this season? Instead of being critical of the commercialization of Christmas, we ought to be overwhelmingly engaged with the fullness of the meaning of Christmas.

**FOCAL POINT:** God continues to work in our lives regardless of the difficulties of the situations around us.



### Getting Started

Catch up together about how your week has been, possibly also revisit last week's meeting.

- ▶ What's your most memorable birthday party as a child?



### Exploring Scripture

Read the following passage together.

Psalm 27

- ▶ Where do you hear God's heart in this passage?
- ▶ What words or phrases stick out to you?



## Reflection

Take time to reflect together about the passage.

- ▶ This Psalm reflects on David's thankfulness to God in a time when his life was in real danger. Often our pain is what gives birth to our capacity to rely on God. Within this Psalm, what clues do you hear about the pain David went through?
- ▶ What times in your life reflect the pain David went through? How did you get through it?



## Praxis

With the understanding that we gathered here are the body of Christ, let's allow the truth from today's scripture to impact us as a LifeGroup.

- ▶ Let's practice celebrating God in the midst of difficult situations. To prepare, everyone should have a sheet of paper and a pencil.
  - ▶ What difficulty are you experiencing in your life right now? What keeps you up at night?
  - ▶ Take a second to visualize this difficulty. On a sheet of paper, rewrite David's psalm in your own words.
  - ▶ After a few minutes, let's pray together and thank God for his presence in our times of trouble.
- ▶ What was this exercise like for you?



## Moving Outward

Challenge each other to live out God's truth this week.

- ▶ Schedule one other time this week you can pause and thank God for his security in times of trouble.

## Psalm 27

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The Lord is my light and my salvation—  
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life—  
of whom shall I be afraid?

When the wicked advance against me  
to devour me,

it is my enemies and my foes  
who will stumble and fall.

Though an army besiege me,  
my heart will not fear;

though war break out against me,  
even then I will be confident.

One thing I ask from the Lord,  
this only do I seek:

that I may dwell in the house of the Lord  
all the days of my life,

to gaze on the beauty of the Lord  
and to seek him in his temple.

For in the day of trouble

he will keep me safe in his dwelling;

he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent  
and set me high upon a rock.

Then my head will be exalted

above the enemies who surround me;

at his sacred tent I will sacrifice with shouts of joy;

I will sing and make music to the Lord.

Hear my voice when I call, Lord;

be merciful to me and answer me.

My heart says of you, "Seek his face!"

Your face, Lord, I will seek.

Do not hide your face from me,

do not turn your servant away in anger;

you have been my helper.

Do not reject me or forsake me,

God my Savior.

Though my father and mother forsake me,

the Lord will receive me.

Teach me your way, Lord;

lead me in a straight path

because of my oppressors.

Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes,

for false witnesses rise up against me,

spouting malicious accusations.

I remain confident of this:

I will see the goodness of the Lord

in the land of the living.

Wait for the Lord;

be strong and take heart

and wait for the Lord.