Songs for Summer

THE BOOK OF PSALMS

Psalm 80

To the choirmaster: according to Lilies. A Testimony. Of Asaph, a Psalm. Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth. ² Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up your might and come to save us! ³ Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved!

⁴ O LORD God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers? ⁵ You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure. ⁶ You make us an object of contention for our neighbors, and our enemies laugh among themselves. ⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved!

⁸You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it. ⁹You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land. ¹⁰The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches. ¹¹It sent out its branches to the sea and its shoots to the River. ¹²Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit? ¹³The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it. ¹⁴Turn again, O God of hosts! Look down from heaven, and see; have regard for this vine, ¹⁵ the stock that your right hand planted, and for the son whom you made strong for yourself. ¹⁶They have burned it with fire; they have cut it down; may they perish at the rebuke of your face!

¹⁷But let your hand be on the man of your right hand, the son of man whom you have made strong for yourself! ¹⁸Then we shall not turn back from you; give us life, and we will call upon your name! ¹⁹Restore us, O LORD God of hosts! Let your face shine, that we may be saved!

Next Week: Psalm 81

TALK SHEET

1.	Psalm 23 talks about "The Lord is my shepherd" How is that Psalm the same or different than this one? Explain.
2.	What do you think it means to ask God to cause his "face to shine?"
3.	What might make God angry with his people's prayers? (4)
4.	Does it ever feel like God has turned away from you? Can you describe that feeling? Can you measure whether God is truly for you by how you feel? Explain.
5.	Can you connect this lament about the vine to Jesus? (8-19) Explain.

6. Pray that we would turn to the Lord and be restored. (18)