



# Brown Community Group

## Discussion Guide

Psalm 34 – June 13th, 2021

### I. Starter Questions:

When in your life have you sought the Lord? Was it a time of joyfulness and praise or a time of trial and tribulation? By seeking the Lord, what was the outcome? Did it go to plan, if so who's plan? When did you find that your relationship with God was strengthened? Did this come in times of great joy and the mountaintop? Or times where you sometimes felt as if God was barely there and listening?

Today we will be studying about an eternal God that is there for us regardless of the situation. He promises to rescue us, protect and keep us as His own no matter the storm or situation. A righteous and holy God deserves our worship, praise and trust.

### II. Psalm 34 – Taste and See the Lord is Good

*I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. <sup>2</sup> My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad. <sup>3</sup> Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together! <sup>4</sup> I sought the LORD, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears. <sup>5</sup> Those who look to him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed. <sup>6</sup> This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him and saved him out of all his troubles. <sup>7</sup> The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them. <sup>8</sup> Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him! <sup>9</sup> Oh, fear the LORD, you his saints, for those who fear him have no lack! <sup>10</sup> The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing. <sup>11</sup> Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD. <sup>12</sup> What man is there who desires life and loves many days that he may see good? <sup>13</sup> Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit. <sup>14</sup> Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it. <sup>15</sup> The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous and his ears toward their cry. <sup>16</sup> The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, to cut off the memory of them from the earth. <sup>17</sup> When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. <sup>18</sup> The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit. <sup>19</sup> Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all. <sup>20</sup> He keeps all his bones; not one of them is broken. <sup>21</sup> Affliction will slay the wicked, and those who hate the righteous will be condemned. <sup>22</sup> The LORD redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.*

- This Psalm is one of thanksgiving for the protection and care of the Lord for those who trust Him. The author not only speaks to the protection and care of God, he also adds a wisdom section in these verses. Rightfully so, for it is those who are wise (the ones who are trusting in the Lord) that are in need of God's protection.
  - The first part of the Psalm focuses on the word “Boast” in Hebrew that word is halal, which describes praising the Lord proudly to others. This is a focus on the Lord's accomplishments and not driven by pride in self. The word Hallelujah, meaning praise Yahweh, is derived from this term.
- Analyzing the Verses:
  - Vs 1-3 - Are about praising God and the encouragement for others to join him.
  - Vs 4-7 - The Lord's faithfulness and his deliverance from a situation

- Vs 8-14 - The benefits and command of fearing the Lord
- Vs 15-22 - The protection that Yahweh gives to those who fear Him and also the destruction that will ultimately come to those who are wicked and unrepentant.

### III. Group Discussion:

1. When the palmist discusses blessing the Lord, what does that specifically mean? How can we bless the Lord?
  - i. Bless – To confer, invoke divine favor upon; ask God to look favorably on; endow with a particular cherished or divine thing or attribute
2. In verse 2, how should we “boast of the Lord”? How should we not “boast of the Lord”?
3. In verse 6, help us properly interpret the scripture “Saved him out of all of his troubles”?
4. In verse 8, it is very interesting words used “taste and see the Lord is good”, what does this mean and how do we do it?
5. Verse 9 and 10, describe to me the meaning and interpretation of the phrase “For those that fear him” and “I will teach you the fear of the Lord”? How does this lead to no lack or concern?
6. Verse 18-20:<sup>18</sup> *The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.* <sup>19</sup> *Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.* <sup>20</sup> How does this verse comfort you? Recount a time in your life when you were brokenhearted and crushed in spirit.
7. The final verse of the chapter, <sup>22</sup> *The LORD redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.* What does this mean to you?

### IV. Responding in Prayer

- Take turns praising God for who He is and thanking Him for what He does.
- Pray for those you know that desperately need to taste and see that the Lord is good.
- Pray for those you know that are crushed in spirit and brokenhearted.
- Pray for the final preps for VBS to go smoothly, as hundreds of children will be here to hear the gospel.
- Pray for all the new people we continue to have each week, that the Lord would draw them to our church and connect them deeply.
- Pray for our summer efforts at living sent in our community. Pray for our church to all individually take ownership of the mission God has for us. Pray for God’s power to continue to rest on our church and our people as we worship and serve, seek holiness and grow in faith.