



# Brown Community Group

## Discussion Guide

### Psalm 28 – December 20, 2020

#### I. Starter Question:

Do you remember a time in your life when you were given mercy by someone for something you did? Did you really deserve the forgiveness demonstrated from your actions? At that moment did you feel powerless or out of control? Were you relying on them to provide grace and you could do nothing yourself to correct?

As we look at our scripture today, we are reminded by the Psalmist that it is only God who can forgive, only God that it is control and only He that saves. Only a supreme God such as this is worry of our praise and can provide salvation, strength and a shield in times of need and struggles in our life.

#### II. Discussion of Scripture:

Though the title of this psalm says it's "Of David", we don't know if David actually wrote it, or if perhaps it was written *for* David. While we may not specifically know the situation this psalm was addressing, it's clear that the psalmist is crying out to the Lord for help, before confidently exulting in His saving strength. As you read this psalm out loud, meditate on the many aspects of God's character that this psalm unfolds. Think on the situations that God has placed you in right now and then pray that you can arrive in the same jubilant confidence in God's saving grace. This is the hope that the gospel offers to us this season, and this is the hope that we are to reflect to others!

#### Psalm 28 – The LORD Is My Strength and My Shield

***To you, LORD, I call; you are my Rock, do not turn a deaf ear to me. For if you remain silent, I will be like those who go down to the pit. <sup>2</sup> Hear my cry for mercy as I call to you for help, as I lift up my hands toward your Most Holy Place. <sup>3</sup> Do not drag me away with the wicked, with those who do evil, who speak cordially with their neighbors but harbor malice in their hearts. <sup>4</sup> Repay them for their deeds and for their evil work; repay them for what their hands have done and bring back on them what they deserve. <sup>5</sup> Because they have no regard for the deeds of the LORD and what his hands have done, he will tear them down and never build them up again. <sup>6</sup> Praise be to the LORD, for he has heard my cry for mercy. <sup>7</sup> The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him. <sup>8</sup> The LORD is the strength of his people, a fortress of salvation for his anointed one. <sup>9</sup> Save your people and bless your inheritance; be their shepherd and carry them forever.***

#### III. Group Discussion Questions:

1. What does it mean when the psalmist says that the Lord is his "rock" in verse 1? What

characteristics does a “Rock” relationship exhibit, compare and contrast something that is not a “Rock”?

2. What specifically is the Psalmist worried about in Vs 1 when it says “Do not turn a deaf ear to me”? Who are those that are referenced as “the ones that go down to the pit”? When comparing Vs 9 comments of “a chosen people”, is the Psalmist saying that God turns a deaf ear to some of His chosen people? Have you feared being counted among the wicked, as the psalmist does here?
3. What does Vs 2 demonstrate about the Psalmist (List at least 3 critical points)?
4. In Vs 3-5, the wicked are described with several key characteristics, what are they? How is it possible for a person to do these things in the face of God? What are the consequences of these actions as described in Vs 5?
5. Multiple relationship points are mentioned in Vs 7-9. List out each and discuss what each one specifically means for our relationship to God?
  - a. The Lord is my strength
  - b. The Lord is my shield
  - c. My heart trusts in him
  - d. He helps me
  - e. My heart leaps for joy
  - f. I will praise him with song
  - g. Fortress of Salvation
  - h. For his anointed
  - i. Save your people
  - j. Bless your inheritance
  - k. Be their shepherd
  - l. Carry them forever