

Psalm 24: leaders notes

This is a flexible study that you can easily adapt to your group.

Each of the four sections is a stand-alone mini-study. They cover different parts of Psalm 24, and 'Prequel' is from Exodus.

Instead of trying to cover every section, pick the sections that you think will be most interesting and challenging for your group. You could use two or three sections, or even just one.

Some of the questions are comprehension questions. The answers are all in the passages referred to, so be ready to direct and re-direct your group to the Bible. You should be able to move through these questions pretty quickly so that you can spend time discussing the implications for our lives.

If Jesus is not Lord of all, he is not Lord at all. **HUDSON TAYLOR**

There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry, 'Mine!' **ABRAHAM KUYPER**

Prequel

In Psalm 24, God is referred to as 'LORD'. Whenever this capitalised title appears in the Old Testament, it represents the Hebrew name **Yahweh**.

This name first appears when God speaks to Moses from the burning bush in Exodus 3.

Read Exodus 3:13-17.

The word Yahweh, with which God names himself, comes from the phrase in verse 14, best understood as, 'I will be who I will be'.

An explanation for this phrase can be found in the passage itself.

In verses 16-17,

1. Who will God be?
2. Why would God define his identity according to his actions?
3. What does this tell us about following and obeying God today?
4. What does this mean for you?

Cosmos

Read Psalm 24.

In verses 1-2,

1. What belongs to God?
2. Why does it belong to God?
3. How do these two massive declarations make you feel?
4. How will this change you?

Allegiance

Read Psalm 24.

In verses 5-6,

1. What does God give his followers?

In verses 3-4,

2. Two general characteristics identify a follower of God, one positive and one negative. What aspects of life do these refer to?

3. Jesus, who has washed clean our hands and hearts, is truly our King. We are his slaves: 'You are not your own, you were bought at a price' (1 Cor 6:19-20).

Read 1 Peter 2:21-25. These words were written to actual slaves. How do these words apply to us as Jesus' slaves? In what areas of life are you being challenged by this?

Poet

Read Psalm 24.

There are some interesting poetic devices in this psalm. These might at first glance seem repetitive or redundant, but they have certain effects on us as readers/singers.

In verses 7-10,

1. Why might the writer have personified the gates and doors of Jerusalem?
2. Why might the writer have included a question-and-answer about the King of Glory?
3. Are you as excited by the King of Glory as the gates and doors are? Why or why not?