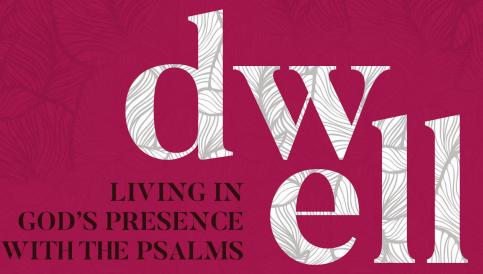
# JANUARY



#### JANUARY 5-11

## **GOD'S GREATEST DESIRE**

#### PSALM 90

Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

You turn people back to dust, saying, "Return to dust, you mortals." A thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night....

Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

Relent, LORD! How long will it be? Have compassion on your servants. Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days. Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, for as many years as we have seen trouble. May your deeds be shown to your servants, your splendor to their children.

May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us yes, establish the work of our hands. (vv. 1-4, 12-17)

#### DAILY DWELL ·

"Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations." Psalm 90:1

- 1. What do you imagine when you think of your dwelling place?
- 2. One of God's greatest desires is that he becomes our dwelling place, what does that say about the person of God?
- 3. The Psalmist refers to God's faithfulness "throughout all generations" (v. 1). Take a moment to ponder your family, the faith you inherited or didn't, and how it has impacted your faith journey.
- 4. Psalm 90 reflects on the past (vv. 1-5), contrasts it with the present (vv. 6-12), and then pleads with God for restoration (vv. 13-17). Write a prayer in the same fashion: reflecting on your past, considering your present, and asking God to use you to restore his Kingdom.



#### JANUARY 12–18

### WHY WE'RE SO AFRAID

#### PSALM 27

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....

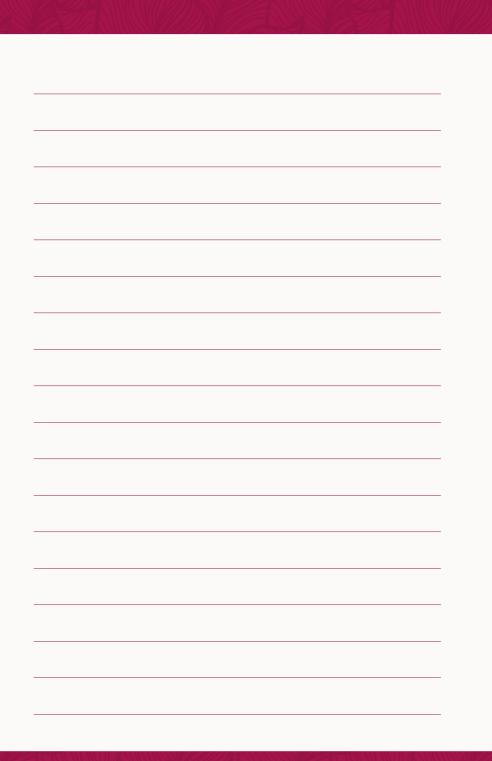
I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.

(vv. 1-5, 13-14)

DAILY DWELL

"The LORD is my light and my salvation — whom shall I fear?..." Psalm 27:1

- 1. David spends half of Psalm 27 reminding himself of God's goodness and glory. How do you remind yourself of God's faithfulness in your own life?
- 2. What is the one thing you seek and ask of God when you are afraid?
- 3. Despite facing hardships, David remains confident that he will "see the goodness of the Lord" on earth (v. 13). How do you perceive and recognize the goodness of God around you?
- 4. Psalm 27 concludes with the encouragement to, "Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD" (v. 14). How do you wait for the Lord? Where is he asking you to wait right now?



#### JANUARY 19–25

#### HOW TO DWELL (AND NOT DWELL)

#### PSALM 1

Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the LORD, and who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither whatever they do prospers.

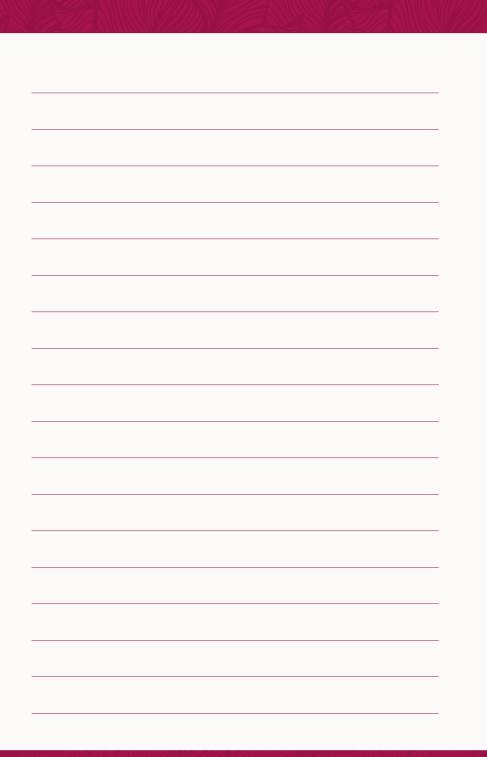
Not so the wicked! They are like chaff that the wind blows away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked leads to destruction. (vv. 1-6)

#### DAILY DWELL

"Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the LORD..." Psalm 1:1–2

- 1. Psalm 1 is a poem that serves as an introduction to the entire Book of Psalms. The poem seems to suggest there are two types of people. What are the two types and what marks their differences?
- 2. Verse 2 mentions the word *law* twice. Many of us might refer to it as *The Word of the Lord*, as the law embodies the rules given by God and acts as a living testament to his nature. Do you feel a sense of freedom or burden when it comes to God's Word? Why?
- 3. How do you remember, reflect, and mark the blessings that God has bestowed upon you?
- 4. What distracts you from dwelling in *The Word of the Lord*? How can you refocus your heart toward God instead of the world?



### JANUARY 26-FEBRUARY 1

## THE POWER OF PRAYER

#### PSALM 135

The idols of the nations are silver and gold, made by human hands. They have mouths, but cannot speak, eyes, but cannot see. They have ears, but cannot hear, nor is there breath in their mouths. Those who make them will be like them, and so will all who trust in them.

All you Israelites, praise the LORD; house of Aaron, praise the LORD; house of Levi, praise the LORD; you who fear him, praise the LORD. Praise be to the LORD from Zion, to him who dwells in Jerusalem.

Praise the Lord. (vv. 15-21)

(vv. 15-21)

#### DAILY DWELL

"The idols of the nations are silver and gold, made by human hands. They have mouths, but cannot speak, eyes, but cannot see." Psalm 135:15–16

- In this Psalm, how does the call to praise God resonate with your personal experience of worship? What specific moments have compelled you to glorify God?
- 2. How is your life a testament to God's greatness?
- 3. Verse 15 highlights that the nation's idols are made of silver and gold. What personal idols might you be holding onto? How can focusing on worshiping God inspire you to grow closer to him and move away from these distractions?
- 4. Psalm 135 concludes with an exhortation to "Praise the Lord" (v. 21). How can you incorporate praise and worship into your daily life before God?