



Small Group Guide: Psalm 82 - God's Rebuke and Call for Justice

Opening Prayer

Key Takeaways:

1. God expects those in positions of authority to represent Him justly and compassionately.
2. Our worship and prayers can be hindered when we choose to live in sin.
3. God cares deeply for the weak, poor, and marginalized.
4. Repentance and confession are always available to us, no matter how far we've strayed.

Discussion Questions:

1. The sermon discussed two interpretations of "Elohim" in Psalm 82. Which view resonates more with you and why?
2. How does this passage challenge our understanding of justice and responsibility as believers?
3. The pastor mentioned that God rejects worship when it's disconnected from just living. How can we ensure our worship is genuine and aligned with God's character?
4. Reflect on Amos 5:21-24. How might this apply to our modern church context?
5. The sermon emphasized the danger of gradual spiritual decline. How can we stay vigilant against this in our own lives?
6. Discuss the statement: "Sin will continually and gradually deceive our hearts away from God." How have you experienced or observed this in your life or others'?
7. How does the message of Psalm 82 relate to Jesus' teachings and actions in the Gospels?

Practical Applications:

1. Self-examination: Take time this week to honestly evaluate areas where you might be "holding onto sin with one hand while reaching for God with the other."
2. Act justly: Identify one practical way you can advocate for or assist someone vulnerable in your community this week.
3. Cultivate repentance: Practice daily confession and repentance, even for small things, to keep your heart sensitive to God's voice.
4. Study justice: Choose a book of the Bible (e.g., Amos, Micah) to study God's heart for justice more deeply.
5. Pray for responsiveness: Ask God to help you become more responsive to His convictions and promptings in your daily life.

Closing Prayer:

Thank God for His justice, mercy, and open arms. Ask for His help in living out the truths discussed and for the courage to confront areas of sin in our lives.