

AEMMC Life Groups

Oct. 31- Nov.5



Psalm 91

*1 Whoever dwells in the shelter
of the Most High,
will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.
2 They say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress,
my God, in whom I trust."*

*14 "Because they love me," says the LORD,
"I will rescue them;
I will protect them, for they acknowledge my name.
15 They will call on me, and I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble,
I will deliver them and honor them.
16 With long life I will satisfy them
and show them my salvation."*

Read Psalm 91

Read the Psalm through once together, dividing it into readers and sections. Use at least two readers.

Pause to read it again silently. Ask your group members to read with a listening ear, as if the Psalm was given for just this day by the Lord. Give everyone five minutes.

Come back together. Ask what was heard in the silent reading. Share together:

Where did you hear the Lord speaking?
What surprised you – you did not expect?
What grips your heart or imagination and why?

Discuss

1. **v. 1-2** How have you experienced God as a refuge or fortress?
2. **V. 3-4** This picture is of a hen and chicks, an image of God as a protective mother. Can you relate to this image? Why or why not?
3. **V. 5-8** The Psalmist believes that we have NO REASON to fear. Compare Romans 8:31-39.
4. **V. 9-13** This passage is prophetic, looking forward to the life and ministry of Christ. Yet though Jesus was protected by God, he also went to the cross. Do we trust God to always keep us safe?
5. **V. 14-16** God's love for Jesus is now His love for us, who are "in Christ."

Share Stories

When have you experienced God's protection?
When have you asked for protection, but something bad happened?

In the CS Lewis "Narnia" stories we hear from Mr. Beaver that "Aslan is good – but he is not safe. He's the king, I tell you!" Many of us feel that if we pray for protection, God is obliged to answer. Yet many Christians suffer accidents, disease, oppression. This raises a problem: Is God good, but not all powerful? Or is God all powerful, but not always good? What Scripture comes to mind.

PRAY Together

*They will call on me, and I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble,
I will deliver them and honor them..v. 15*

Whatever we experience in this life, we know that we will live in a new heaven and a new earth where Christ will rule with justice and love. His kingdom will have no end! Pray for one another for faith and endurance.