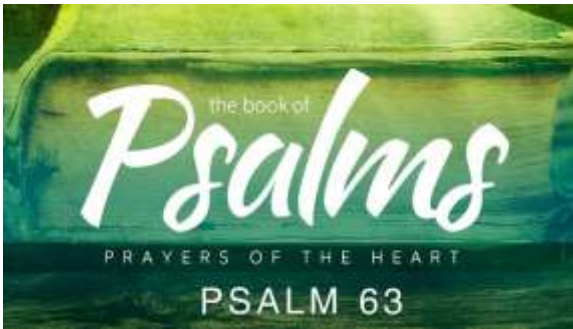


Psalm 63 – David’s Desert Song

September 12, 2021 Discussion Notes

Everyone is encouraged to bring a Bible

(Phone apps are good for reading together in the same translation. Study Bibles give help with interpretation.)



Questions:

1. Icebreaker question: Do you know any interesting facts about deserts? Now's your chance to wow each other with your knowledge. :)
2. The sermon was based on Psalm 63, a prayer that David sang when he was having a tough time in the desert of Judah. What do you remember about each of the main points? What stood out to you?
3. Which element from David's desert song most resonated with you and why?
4. Kadesh Barnea is a place that comes up repeatedly in the Old Testament. In Hebrew, the name means "holy desert of a fugitive." Here are some significant things that happened at Kadesh Barnea (often just referred to as Kadesh).
 - Miriam died (she was the sister of Moses, a prophetess, and a woman of great influence) – Numbers 20:1
 - Moses struck a rock with his staff in anger (disobeying God's instructions and treating Him as unholy in front of the Israelites; God then told Moses that he would not be able to enter the Promised Land) – Numbers 20:2-12
 - The people of Israel rebelled against God and refused to enter the Promised Land (based on the bad report of 10 spies) – Numbers 13-14; Deuteronomy 9:23
 - It was at Kadesh Barnea that God sentenced the Israelites to 40 years of wandering in the desert – Numbers 14:30-35
- a) Do you see any common themes in these Kadesh Barnea stories? What might this place represent?
- b) Can you think of a "Kadesh" moment that you have faced? How did you respond?
- c) Two of the spies, Joshua and Caleb, had faith and gave a good report. What does this teach us about the "Kadeshes" we sometimes face?
5. Read Deuteronomy 8:2-5
 - a) What was God doing in the lives of His people while they were in the desert for forty years?
 - b) In what ways did he take care of them?
 - c) Do you see the word "discipline" as a positive or negative term? How is it used here?
6. Read Psalm 29:8-11
 - a) Why might it be encouraging that the Lord "shakes the desert of Kadesh"? What does this tell us about God?
 - b) How is the voice of the Lord described? What does it do?
 - c) How do people in the temple respond to His voice? Who might they represent?
 - d) How does the imagery in this psalm contrast with its last line? What can we learn from this?
7. Pray for each other's needs. Pray that God would help you to sing prayers and songs of praise, even when you find yourself in seasons of Kadesh.