

# Growth Teams

Week Beginning  
Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2014

## Going deeper

In Psalm 70, David calls on God not to delay. Yet, 2000 years after Jesus Christ died and rose again, we still live in a world with wars and suffering caused by evil people. We might well ask why the Prince of Peace has not yet brought peace. This section from one of Peter's letters deals with this issue head on.

### Please read 2 Peter 3:1-10

4. What is Peter's overarching aim in this letter? Where does he want us to turn to guide our thinking?
5. Jesus promised that he would 'come again'. When he does this the world will be judged and put right (e.g. Mt. 13:24-30, 36-43; 16:27; 24:30-31; 25:31-46). Why does Peter say people will 'scoff' at this?
6. How does Peter's response in verses 5-7 warn against such scoffing? (Verse 5 refers to Genesis 1:1-13, verse 6 to the Flood story in Genesis 6-8 and verse 7 to when Christ returns, cf. vs. 10).
7. How is Jesus's delay in coming actually an expression of God's love and care for everyone? (cf. vs. 8-9)
8. Look at verses 9 and 10. Why do people need to repent urgently even though God has delayed so long?

**Now turn over and do 'Applying it to our lives'.**

## Growth Teams

Growth Teams are a wonderful opportunity to go deeper with other Christians. They are a great place to build real friendships and support networks, to pray for one another and to look more carefully at the topics we consider on a Sunday. Growth Teams are starting up this week for another five week set of sessions.

This week is Remembrance and we are looking at Psalm 70, a poem and a prayer written by one of the Bible's most famous soldiers and poets: David.



**Growing in Christ  
to glorify God  
and enjoy Him forever.**

## A Soldier's Poem

Psalm 70 (page 584)

Space to take notes on the talk

- A Prayer of \_\_\_\_\_
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- A Prayer for \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- A Prayer for \_\_\_\_\_

## Starter question

- ❖ Were any of your family members in one of the wars? What happened to them?

## Responding to the talk

1. What key thing would you say you learnt or were reminded about during this week's talk?
  
2. Read Psalm 70, particularly verses 1 and 5:
  - a. How does verse 5 repeat and make stronger what is said in verse 1?
  - b. How does David describe himself and God in verse 5? How does this help us understand prayer?
  - c. What is good about telling God to, 'Hurry up!'
  - d. In what ways do we need to be more urgent in our prayers?
  
3. Read Psalm 70, particularly verses 2,3 and 4:
  - a. How does the writer contrast the group described in verses 2 and 3 with that in verse 4?
  - b. How does the command to love our enemies (Mt. 5:44) and the need to forgive others (Mt. 6:14-15) fit with David's prayer in verses 2 and 3?
  - c. What is David's hope for those who seek God?
  - d. How can we live out the prayer of verse 4?

*If there is time, you may like to do the 'Going deeper' questions over the page. Otherwise please just jump to questions 9 and 10.*

## Applying it to our lives

9. How can we encourage people to come to God with a greater urgency?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. How should we pray for people who are joining up with ISIS?