

Applying it to our lives

5. From what we have seen in the way this Psalm handles the questions, how might you respond to someone who is asking, "Why is God allowing the present pandemic?"

6. What different questions might we have of God? Is God's presence with us still the answer we need?

7. What encouragement from God's presence do we most need at this time?

8. The UK church has been in decline over recent decades. How might we use this Psalm to pray for God to turn that situation around? (You may like to write and share a prayer).



**Week Beginning
Sunday 18th October 2020**

Growth Team News

Sadly, with the present Covid restrictions many of our Growth Teams are on pause. There are, however, a couple meeting on Zoom (see below). If you would like to give either of those a try this week, then please let Paul know on 01843 592562.

After this week there will be a two-week break for Growth Teams. Then we will return the week beginning 8th November.

Even if you cannot join a Zoom Growth Team, please use this sheet with family members or meeting informally with a few others (no more than six!) The sheet works best after watching the Sunday Sermon, which is available on You Tube or through our website.

Mon. 8:00pm *on Zoom*

Thu. 8.00pm *on Zoom*



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

How Long? A Community Plea

Psalm 80 (page 592 in church Bibles)

Space to take notes on the talk

Questions for God: _____

Questions for God:

❖ How long _____

❖ Why _____

God's _____ is the answer:

✓ God's _____ with us

✓ God's _____ for us

✓ God's _____ in us

Getting to know each other

❖ If you were a plant, what plant would you be?

Responding to the talk

1. Did the talk raise any questions in your mind that you would like to discuss?

2. What does the Psalmist believe about God?

Last week we saw that what we believe about God affects how we pray.

- a. How does the Psalmist describe God in verses 1-2?
- b. What does the Psalmist ask God to do in verses 1-2? How is this similar to the way God acted at the Exodus? (Exo. 3:7-8)
- c. In verses 3,7,19 the Psalmist repeats a refrain. In what way does the refrain change each time?
- d. How does the refrain reflect the blessing recorded in Numbers 6:23-25?

3. The Two Questions

- a. What is the problem according to the Psalmist in verses 3-6? (To understand reasons for God's anger, see Isa. 5:1-7).
- b. How does the story of the vine sum up Israel's history?
- c. What problem does this history raise for the Psalmist? (vs. 12)
- d. How does asking these questions help?
- e. Does the Psalmist answer the questions? If so in what way?

4. Who is the Son? (Going Deeper, feel free to skip)

- a. Who does the 'son' refer to in verse 15? Cf. Exo. 4:22-23; Hosea 11:1).
- b. Who is the 'Son of Man' in verse 17? (cf. Daniel 7:13-14; Matthew 22:41-46)
- c. Jesus says, "I am the vine you are the branches." (John 15:5). What are the connections between this Psalm and Jesus's teaching in John 15?