

# LifeGroup Sermon Series Study

2021-2022

*Series Four*



## “Stories of the Songs”



Music is the universal language. It connects and communicates to every race, creed, and language. Music can lift us up emotionally or bring us down. It’s timeless – sometimes we can hear a song and remember exactly where we were, and what we were experiencing and feeling. The songs in this series may carry that level of remembrance for you.

One of the things I enjoy the most about music is the backstories. What led up to the writing of the song? Were the writers experiencing what they were writing about? Did they feel it deeply? What inspired them to put the lyrics on paper? For me, learning the backstory makes the song more meaningful.

The Book of Psalms is a collection of songs actually sung by the Jewish nation of Israel. The music has many characteristics of our modern worship music (though some of the instruments are different). The music of Psalms is filled with memories, emotions, and poetry and seasoned with rich theology and practical experience. For some songs, we know the backstory; others are a mystery.

I have chosen seven songs out of the book of Psalms (five were the most-searched Bible Psalms on Google – and I added two of my favorites). My hope and prayer is that these songs (conceived out of struggle, discouragement, loneliness, and anger) will be encouraging to you. The truths found in them are priceless and meant to be shared with your friends who don’t know or believe in Jesus.

I hope this song selection will provide insights for you as we continue to push forward in an uncertain world.

For His Kingdom,

Pastor Doug



**Stories of the Songs**  
**Song #23: “We Belong”**  
**Psalm 23**  
**Lesson 1**

**I. Purpose:**

- A. To help us understand what might have been behind the writing of this song.
- B. To help us know how much David had grown in his relationship with God.
- C. To help us see what David had learned about God.

**II. Community that Cares: (10 minutes)**

- A. How are you doing with taking your next step?
- B. How are you doing with your 5-5-5 this week?

**III. Community that Learns: (15 minutes)**

- A. Review the points of the Pastor’s message.
- B. Sermon outline: Song #23, “We Belong.” Three parts to the story of this song:
  - 1. We (\_\_\_\_\_). Verse 1
  - 2. God (\_\_\_\_\_) us up. Verses 2-4
  - 3. God has (\_\_\_\_\_) our future. Verses 5-6
- C. Additional scriptures to look at: Genesis 48:15; Psalm 80:1, 95:7; Isaiah 49:10; Jeremiah 31:9-10; Ezekiel 34.

**IV. Community that Applies: (20 minutes)**

- A. What is the hardest concept to understand in this passage?
- B. What part of this passage is the most encouraging to you?
- C. Why do you think David felt like he belonged to the family of God?
- D. What qualities of a shepherd compare to the way God treats us?

## Lesson 1 cont.

- E. How has God built you up in the past few months?
  - F. What are some of the things that bring you hope as a result of your relationship with God?
  - G. If you were to rewrite this song today what would be some of the lyrics you would add?
  - H. What needs to change in the way you are living today as a result of the truth in this song? What do you need to begin doing or what do you need to stop doing?
- V. **Community that is Accountable: (15 minutes)**  
If this is an area that God is speaking to you about, then what is the next step you need to take as a result of your understanding of this song?
- VI. **Community that Prays: (5 minutes)**  
Spend a few minutes praying silently about your next step.
- VII. **Community that Looks Ahead:**
- A. The scriptures next week are Psalm 27.
  - B. If you missed Sunday's sermon, watch online at [www.lifewatercc.org](http://www.lifewatercc.org) before the next LifeGroup.
  - C. Reflect on next week's questions during your five minutes of daily silence.

**Stories of the Songs**  
**Song #27: "I Won't Let Go"**  
**Psalm 27**  
**Lesson 2**

**I. Purpose:**

- A. To help us understand what might have been behind the writing of this song.
- B. To help us know how much David had grown in his relationship with God.
- C. To help us see what David had learned about God.

**II. Community that Cares: (10 minutes)**

- A. How are you doing with taking your next step?
- B. How are you doing with your 5-5-5 this week?

**III. Community that Learns: (15 minutes)**

- A. Review the points of the Pastor's message.
- B. Sermon outline: Song #27, "I Won't Let Go." Three parts to the story of this song:
  - 1. I am (\_\_\_\_\_). Verses 1-3
  - 2. I have a (\_\_\_\_\_) to go. Verse 4-6
  - 3. I have a (\_\_\_\_\_) I can trust. Verse 7-14
- C. Additional scriptures to look at: Exodus 15:2; Psalm 18:28, 62:7, 118:14; Isaiah 60:20; John 1:3-9; 1 John 1:5-7.

**IV. Community that Applies: (20 minutes)**

- A. What is the hardest concept to understand in this passage?
- B. What part of this passage is the most encouraging to you?

## Lesson 2 cont.

- C. Why do you think David felt so secure in the life he was living?
- D. Why do you think David trusted God so much?
- E. What were some of the ways that God had come through for David?
- F. What are some of the ways God had not come through for David?
- G. If you were to rewrite this song today, what would be some of the lyrics you would add?
- H. What needs to change in the way you are living today as a result of the truth in this song? What do you need to begin doing or what do you need to stop doing?

### V. **Community that is Accountable: (15 minutes)**

If this an area that God is speaking to you about, then what is the next step you need to take as a result of your understanding of this song?

### VI. **Community that Prays: (5 minutes)**

Spend a few minutes praying together out loud over your next step.

### VII. **Community that Looks Ahead:**

- A. The scriptures next week are Psalm 37.
- B. If you missed Sunday's sermon, watch online at [www.lifewatercc.org](http://www.lifewatercc.org) before the next Life Group.
- C. Reflect on next week's questions during your five minutes of daily silence.

**Stories of the Songs**  
**Song #37: “A Matter of Trust”**  
**Psalms 37:1-22**  
**Lesson 3**

**I. Purpose:**

- A. To help us understand what might have been behind the writing of this song.
- B. To help us know how much David had grown in his relationship with God.
- C. To help us see what David had learned about God.

**II. Community that Cares: (10 minutes)**

- A. How are you doing with taking your next step?
- B. How are you doing with your 5-5-5 this week?

**III. Community that Learns: (15 minutes)**

- A. Review the points of the Pastor’s message.
- B. Sermon outline: Song #37, “A Matter of Trust.” Three parts to the story of this song:
  - 1. Do not be (\_\_\_\_\_). Verses 1-4
  - 2. (\_\_\_\_\_) to the Lord. Verses 5-7
  - 3. Have (\_\_\_\_\_) in the Lord. Verses 8-22
- C. Additional scriptures to look at: Psalm 62:8, 73:3; Proverbs 16:3, 23:17, 24:19; Isaiah 40:11; Philippians 3:3; 1 John 4:17.

**IV. Community that Applies: (20 minutes)**

- A. What is the hardest concept to understand in this passage?
- B. What part of this passage is the most encouraging to you?



### Lesson 3 cont.

- C. Is it hard for you not to be concerned about your life or your family's life? Why?
- D. Why do you think committing to God is important before we can really trust God?
- E. What does having confidence in the Lord look like for you today? Are you there?
- F. If you were to rewrite this song today, what would be some of the lyrics you would add?
- G. What needs to change in the way you are living today as a result of the truth in this song? What do you need to begin doing or what do you need to stop doing?

#### V. **Community that is Accountable: (15 minutes)**

If this is an area that God is speaking to you about, then what is the next step you need to take as a result of your understanding of this song?

#### VI. **Community that Prays: (5 minutes)**

Spend a few minutes praying together (in groups of three) about your next step.

#### VII. **Community that Looks Ahead:**

- A. The scriptures next week are Psalm 91.
- B. If you missed Sunday's sermon, watch online at [www.lifewatercc.org](http://www.lifewatercc.org) before the next Life Group.
- C. Reflect on next week's questions during your five minutes of daily silence.

**Stories of the Songs**  
**Song #91: "I'll Be There For You"**  
**Psalm 91**  
**Lesson 4**

**I. Purpose:**

- A. To help us understand what might have been behind the writing of this song.
- B. To help us know the qualities of God that the author had discovered.
- C. To help us see how God will be there for us unfailingly.

**II. Community that Cares: (10 minutes)**

- A. How are you doing with taking your next step?
  
- B. How are you doing with your 5-5-5 this week?

**III. Community that Learns: (15 minutes)**

- A. Review the points of the Pastor's message.
- B. Sermon outline: Song #91, "I'll Be There For You." Three parts to the story of this song:
  - 1. We can dwell in God's structure without (\_\_\_\_\_).  
Verse 1-3
  
  - 2. God will (\_\_\_\_\_) us. Verse 4-8
  
  - 3. God protects and loves us (\_\_\_\_\_). Verse 9-16
- C. Additional scriptures to look at: 2 Kings 19:35; Job 5:19-23; Psalm 27:5, 31:20, 32:7; Isaiah 51:16; Matthew 4:6; Luke 4:1-11.

**IV. Community that Applies: (20 minutes)**

- A. What is the hardest concept to understand in this passage?
  
- B. What part of this passage is the most encouraging to you?

## Lesson 4 cont.

- C. What does God's shelter mean to you?
- D. Why would it be comforting to rest in God's shadow?
- E. What qualities of God's character are you seeing evident in your life and circumstances?
- F. What are some examples of God loving and protecting you in recent months?
- G. If you were to rewrite this song today, what would be some of the lyrics you would add?
- H. What needs to change in the way you are living today as a result of the truth in this song? What do you need to begin doing or what do you need to stop doing?

### V. **Community that is Accountable: (15 minutes)**

If this is an area that God is speaking to you about, then what is the next step you need to take as a result of your understanding of this song?

### VI. **Community that Prays: (5 minutes)**

Spend a few minutes praying for the person to your right about their next step.

### VII. **Community that Looks Ahead:**

- A. The scriptures next week are Psalm 121.
- B. If you missed Sunday's sermon, watch online at [www.lifewatercc.org](http://www.lifewatercc.org) before the next Life Group.
- C. Reflect on next week's questions during your five minutes of daily silence.

**Stories of the Songs**  
**Song #121: “Don’t Stop Believing”**  
**Psalm 121**  
**Lesson 5**

**I. Purpose:**

- A. To help us understand what might have been behind the writing of this song.
- B. To help us know we should never give up believing that God is guarding our soul.
- C. To help us see that all true help comes from the Lord.

**II. Community that Cares: (10 minutes)**

- A. How are you doing with taking your next step?
- B. How are you doing with your 5-5-5 this week?

**III. Community that Learns: (15 minutes)**

- A. Review the points of the Pastor’s message.
- B. Sermon outline: Song #121, “Don’t Stop Believing.” Three parts to the story of this song:
  - 1. My (\_\_\_\_\_) comes from the Lord. Verses 1-2
  - 2. The Lord is my (\_\_\_\_\_). Verses 3-6
  - 3. The Lord (Shamar) me every (\_\_\_\_\_) of the way. Verses 7-8
- C. Additional scriptures to look at: Deuteronomy 28:6; 1 Samuel 2:9; Psalm 115:15, 124:8; Isaiah 27:3; Revelation 7:16.

**IV. Community that Applies: (20 minutes)**

- A. What is the hardest concept to understand in this passage?
- B. What part of this passage is the most encouraging to you?

## Lesson 5 cont.

- C. Do you believe God can help you? Why or why not?
- D. What are some examples where God did help you?
- E. What are some examples where God seemed not to help you, but later He did?
- F. How is God protecting you today?
- G. If you were to rewrite this song today, what would be some of the lyrics you would add?
- H. What needs to change in the way you are living today as a result of the truth in this song? What do you need to begin doing or what do you need to stop doing?

### V. **Community that is Accountable: (15 minutes)**

If this is an area that God is speaking to you about, then what is the next step you need to take as a result of your understanding of this song?

### VI. **Community that Prays: (5 minutes)**

Spend a few minutes praying together out loud about your next step.

### VII. **Community that Looks Ahead:**

- A. The scriptures next week are Psalm 139.
- B. If you missed Sunday's sermon, watch online at [www.lifewatercc.org](http://www.lifewatercc.org) before the next Life Group.
- C. Reflect on next week's questions during your five minutes of daily silence.

**Stories of the Songs**  
**Song #139: “Faithfully”**  
**Psalm 139**  
**Lesson 6**

**I. Purpose:**

- A. To help us understand what might have been behind the writing of this song.
- B. To help us know how much David had grown in his relationship with God.
- C. To help us see what David had learned about God.

**II. Community that Cares: (10 minutes)**

- A. How are you doing with taking your next step?
- B. How are you doing with your 5-5-5 this week?

**III. Community that Learns: (15 minutes)**

- A. Review the points of the Pastor’s message.
- B. Sermon outline: Song #139, “Faithfully.” Four parts to the story of this song:
  - 1. God knows me (\_\_\_\_\_). Verse 1-6
  - 2. God’s (\_\_\_\_\_) is everywhere. Verse 7-12
  - 3. God’s (\_\_\_\_\_) created me just as I am. Verse 13-18
  - 4. God’s (\_\_\_\_\_) that destroys evil searches the believer’s heart. Verse 19-24
- C. Additional scriptures to look at: Job 14:16, 31:4; Psalm 17:3, 44:21; Jeremiah 12:3; Daniel 2:22; Romans 11:33; Hebrews 4:13; 1 John 1:5.

**IV. Community that Applies: (20 minutes)**

- A. What is the hardest concept to understand in this passage?

## Lesson 6 cont.

- B. What part of this passage is the most encouraging to you?
- C. What does God know about you?
- D. What impact does it have on you that God is with you every minute of your day?
- E. What is the best part of God's creation in you?
- F. What does it mean to you that God searches and knows your heart?
- G. If you were to rewrite this song today, what would be some of the lyrics you would add?
- H. What needs to change in the way you are living today as a result of the truth in this song? What do you need to begin doing or what do you need to stop doing?

### V. **Community that is Accountable: (15 minutes)**

If this is an area that God is speaking to you about, then what is the next step you need to take as a result of your understanding of this song?

### VI. **Community that Prays: (5 minutes)**

Spend a few minutes praying together out loud over your next step.

### VII. **Community that Looks Ahead:**

- A. The scriptures next week are Psalm 150.
- B. If you missed Sunday's sermon, watch online at [www.lifewatercc.org](http://www.lifewatercc.org) before the next Life Group.
- C. Reflect on next week's questions during your five minutes of daily silence.

## Stories of the Songs

### Psalm 150

#### Lesson 7

I. **Purpose:**

- A. To help us understand what might have been behind the writing of these songs.
- B. To help us know how much the authors had grown in their relationships with God.
- C. To help us see the things that the authors had learned about God.

II. **Community that Cares: (10 minutes)**

- A. What is the next step God is asking you to take and how are you doing?
- B. How are you doing with your 5-5-5 this week?

III. **Community that Learns: (15 minutes)**

- A. What spoke to you, challenged you, or encouraged you the most in this series?
- B. What is one thing you learned, relearned, or were reminded of as we looked at the last six weeks of scriptures?
- C. Additional scriptures to look at: Psalm 150.

IV. **Community that Applies: (20 minutes)**

- A. What is the hardest concept to understand from the songs we studied?
- B. Which songs were the most encouraging to you?
- C. Do you have better tools to deal with the issues of today?



## Lesson 7 cont.

- D. What have you discovered you need to stop doing or start doing to help you face the days we are in?
- E. How has this series helped you to be equipped to help others who are struggling today?
- F. What are you the most thankful for?

### V. **Community that is Accountable: (15 minutes)**

If this is an area that God is speaking to you about, then what is the next step you need to take as a result of your understanding of these songs?

### VI. **Community that Prays: (5 minutes)**

Spend some time praying silently about the next step that you are attempting to take.

### VII. **Community that Looks Ahead:**

- A. The scriptures next week are Genesis 1:11.
- B. If you missed Sunday's sermon, watch online at [www.lifewatercc.org](http://www.lifewatercc.org) before the next Life Group.
- C. Reflect on next week's questions during your five minutes of daily silence.









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