

CONTINUE THE CONVERSATION: SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

LIVING IN THE AWE OF GOD -

The Awe of His Harmony, (Psalm 133)

STUDY INTRODUCTION

The beauty of music to the human ear is a profound miracle. How is it that air moving across the nerve endings in our ears can evoke such deep emotion – joy, sadness, calming, or awakening? Hearing notes played individually and then combined to create chords and movement is an extraordinary thing.

Psalm 133 reflects on the beauty of unity and harmony among God's people. In a world so often fractured, broken, and isolating, the potential of experiencing the grace of God among healthy relationships is a profound thing. In this study, we will reflect together on why harmony among the people of God is so refreshing and why it is so timely today.

OPEN UP:

Begin this week's study by using the following ice-breaker questions to help people begin interacting.

- How would you describe your family growing up: connected/disconnected, transparent/guarded, warm/distant?
- What points or principles did you take away from this week's message that were the most challenging, thought provoking, or encouraging to you?

DIG IN:

Read Psalm 133. Consider asking different people to read from various translations.

- Psalm 133 is one of the Psalms of Ascent – a psalm used in the people's worship as they went up to Jerusalem for feasts and days of worship. What does the writer observe that brings such joy to his heart as the people went to worship together?
- What four adjectives does the psalmist use to describe the harmony of God's people? (vv. 1-3)
- What two examples does Psalm 133 use to describe the beauty of harmony among God's people?
- What gift/grace of God is present when such harmony is present among God's people? (v. 3)

REFLECT:

- What does “harmony” among God’s people look like?
- What descriptive words would you use to describe the blessing of unity among God’s people?
- What examples would you give someone if you were trying to communicate how harmony in the Body of Christ has impacted you? (“It’s like...”)
- What are some things that hinder unity among God’s people? How would you describe that experience? (“It’s like...”)
- What are some ways you have experienced the blessing of unity/harmony in your small group?

APPLY:

Jesus prayed at length in John 17 for the unity of those who would follow him. Spend some time at the conclusion of your group praying for a deeper, more rich experience of harmony in your group and in your church family.