

WEEK 4

These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family, and/or with a group or Bible class.

Psalm 22 only found it's truest meaning once Jesus quoted it from the cross. The Psalmist cries out to God in desperation, moving to striking depictions of Christ's crucifixion. But the song doesn't stop there. Like so many others, it moves to worship and hope and even the ends of the earth. In this way, Psalm 22 shows us the scope of the whole Gospel.

1 Read Mark 15:34 and then **Psalm 22:1.** This moment on the cross has shaped our understanding of what was happening between Jesus the Son and God the Father. Why did Jesus experience separation from God as He never had before? **(HINT: Read 2 Corinthians 5:21)** How is this a model for honest prayer in our own lives?

2 Compare the following passages: Psalm 22:7-8 & Matthew 27:43; Psalm 22:16-18 & Mark 15:24; Psalm 22:15 & John 19:28-30. This inspired song depicted aspects of Christ's crucifixion with great accuracy. Among the many prophecies Jesus fulfilled, what does it mean to you that even in Jesus' dying he was fulfilling Scripture?

Read Psalm 22:22-24. The psalm abruptly moves to earnest worship. Taylor said, Christ's infinite suffering won our immeasurable blessing. How does seeing the sacrifice of Jesus invite us to respond in earnest worship? What is the blessing Christ won for us? How would you explain it to someone who has never read the Bible?

4 Read Psalm 22:27-31. Psalm 22 finishes with telling future generations, "He has done it." Why does the message of the gospel give us unending hope? In light of God's triumph over death, how can we live and speak from a place of hope?

5 Read Psalm 105:4. We've said throughout this series that results require repetition. But we really can't find God without Jesus, no matter how many times we try. Now read 1 Peter 3:18. It was only through Jesus' sacrifice that we could experience God's presence, mercy, and grace. Read Luke 9:23. How can you keep a rhythm of prayer, worship, and hope that will help you take up your cross daily?

ACTION STEP Use the Psalms to encounter Jesus this week. Download the reading guide at **thehills.org/KTORepeat** and see the New Testament quotations of the Psalms used to point people to Jesus. Take stock this week of how much you talk about Jesus - is He part of your conversation with friends and family? Do you ever quote His teaching or parables at work? If the answers are no, be intentional about introducing more of Jesus in your daily conversations. Jesus alone sets us apart as God's claimed people.