

Psalm 4

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Study Questions for January 26, 2012

How long will you love delusions and seek false gods? Psalm 4:2b

Seeking False gods

I did not wake up one day and declare, “I am going to seek false gods. Yes, that is exactly what I am going to do; run hard after something that will leave me empty and unfulfilled.” No one makes such a harmful decision on purpose. Seeking false gods is a result of not seeking the right God. It took me years to break the cycle of “seeking false gods” and through God’s grace I continue to identify and defeat my idolatry.

Innocently wondering from person to thing to activity, I begged others and things to fill my emptiness and give me the fulfillment I longed for. It wasn’t until I was knee-deep in idolatry that I realized what I had done and the fallacies I believed. Shopping, sleep, and soap operas (sharing only my short list) had become my wrong reservoirs, my false gods. At thirty-one years old I asked, “Is this it? Is this as good as it gets?” God whispered to my spirit through the words of the prophet Joel. Today, He whispers to your spirit.

Locate and read Joel 2:12-13

What does God say to the heart chasing false gods?

As we return, what are His instructions?

Seeking the True God

God asks those who are caught in the cycle of “seeking false gods” to return and rend. We return to Him with all our heart and remove any part of our heart that offers affection and allegiance to another god. This kind of work, returning and rending, takes time and a team effort.

Locate and read John 14:26

Who is on your team making the return to God and rending of your heart possible?

David’s gentle instructions in verse four teach us how to begin seeking the True God, “Search your hearts and be silent.” As we search in silence our Teammate will be cheering for us and confirming to us what God would have us do.

Personal Reflection and Application

What has God revealed to me in this lesson? How will I respond?
