

Home group questions – Praying like David (Psalm 1 and Psalm 13)

- In what ways have you ever been tempted to compartmentalise and restrict prayer?
- *(ie it should only be done in this place and in this way.)*
- How does the environment you are in affect the way you pray? What environments most stimulate prayer in you?
- How does your life compare to the tree David describes in psalm 1? *(Compare the passage with Jeremiah 17: 8 and see how Jeremiah fills the image out.)*
- You might like to identify other psalms where David senses God speaking through things he sees and experiences in nature.
- Give an example of God speaking to you through something you noticed in nature.
Why do you think we should expect this to happen?
- How might it change the way we prayed if we regarded sights and sounds as stimuli for prayer rather than frustrating distractions?
- What do you notice about the way David prayed in psalm 13?
- If there is there is nothing that is new to God that can arise in our prayers, what does this mean for how we pray?
- Why might we be afraid of allowing strong, less attractive feelings and emotions to come to the surface in our prayers?
- What does David show us about presenting our real, unvarnished thoughts to God. *(saying "Lord this is how I really am today?)*
- What might be attractive to you about this type of dialoguing prayer that allows us to go in surprising directions?