

PSALM 1

The Crowd & The Compass

Part Two

PSALM 1

REPLAY: THE POWER OF THE CROWD ~ Psalm 1:1

THE SIMPLE TRUTH ABOUT SPIRITUAL GROWTH

If I'm velcroed to the Bible and other Christians,
I'll have what I need when I need it.

THE POWER OF THE CROWD

Matthew 9:10-14/ Proverbs 13:20

- Associate with everyone. But hang with those who make you better.
- We inevitably become like those we hang with.
- The Key Question: *Where do I turn for advice & approval?*

THE POWER OF THE COMPASS ~ Psalm 1:2

- A good heart with a bad compass will take you to the wrong place – every time!

1 Corinthians 4:4 & Romans 1:18-32/ Proverbs 12:15/ Proverbs 14:12

- What does it mean to delight in the law of the Lord?

Proverbs 2:3-11 & 8:33-36/ Romans 12:2

- What does it mean to meditate day and night?

Joshua 1:8/ 2 Timothy 3:16-17/ 1 Corinthians 10:11/ Psalm 119:105

THE GOOD LIFE ~ Psalm 1:3-6

- Blessed at the right time.

1 Peter 5:6-7/ Acts 7:20-30/ Deuteronomy 7:22

- Able to survive the drought.

Proverbs 10:24-25/ 1 Peter 1:6-7

- A pattern of prosperity.

Proverbs 11:6-8 & 13:21/ Psalm 73

Growth Group Homework

For the week of May 20, 2007

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THE POWER OF THE COMPASS ~ Psalm 1:2

- A good _____ with a bad _____ will take you to _____ place – every time!

1 Corinthians 4:4 & Romans 1:18-32/ Proverbs 12:15/ Proverbs 14:12

- What does it mean to _____ *in the law of the Lord?*

Proverbs 2:3-11 & 8:33-36/ Romans 12:2

- What does it mean to _____ *day and night?*

Joshua 1:8/ 2 Timothy 3:16-17/ 1 Corinthians 10:11/ Psalm 119:105

THE GOOD LIFE ~ Psalm 1:3-6

- Blessed at the _____.

1 Peter 5:6-7/ Acts 7:20-30/ Deuteronomy 7:22

- Able to survive the _____.

Proverbs 10:24-25/ 1 Peter 1:6-7

- A pattern of _____.

Proverbs 11:6-8 & 13:21/ Psalm 73

QUICK REVIEW: Looking back over your sermon notes from *Psalm 1: The Crowd and the Compass, Part 2*, which particular point or passage of Scripture most challenged, confused, or caught your attention?

MY STORY

1. Growing up, the way I viewed the Bible could best be described as:

- Stories for children
- A textbook – important, but dry
- Good stuff, but complicated and beyond me
- A resource book
- A book just for grown-ups
- A holy book- mystical, but worthy of honor
- Irrelevant to me and/or my family
- Other _____

2. What do you do when reading the Bible becomes boring or doesn't seem to be providing any benefit?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. This weekend Larry talked about meditating on the Bible. In addition to specific Bible verses, the Psalms contain other suggestions for what we can meditate on. In the following verses, identify what some of those are.

Psalm 48:9

Psalm 119:27

Psalm 119:148

Psalm 145:5

In what circumstances or situations could mulling on each of these suggestions be helpful?

Can you think of any things people often mull on that are not helpful to their spiritual or emotional health?

2. The tree in Psalm 1:3 was healthy because it had the right nutrients for growth. John 15 is another passage that uses a plant to explain how we find the right nutrients to help us grow.

Using John 15:1-8, jot down the roles each of the main characters play and the responsibility each has in the spiritual growth process.

	Role	Responsibility
God		
Jesus		
Believer		

How could understanding these differing roles and responsibilities affect your spiritual growth?

How have you benefited from the crowd and the compass in your pursuit of remaining in Christ?

What are some challenges for you to consistently remain in Christ?

3. There is a passage in Jeremiah that is similar to Psalm 1:3. What additional insights about spiritual growth do you get after reading Jeremiah 17:5-8?

Why do you think people at times still choose to be a bush in the wastelands instead of a fruitful tree?

Is there someone you know (no names please) whose life is a living example of either of the people described in this verse? What characterizes their life?

TAKING IT HOME

1. We heard these past two weekends about two equally important ingredients for spiritual growth – the crowd and the compass. As you think about your life, is there one of these you need to give special attention to in order to continue growing spiritually?

2. Larry talked about the “good life.” What challenges are you currently facing that could threaten your experience of this life?

