

# Songs of Summer

## Part 5 Our SECURITY in God Psalm 37

Why do GOOD things happen to BAD people?

Two personal responses to UNDESERVED prosperity

Stir up FRETTING or ENVY in our heart vs. 1-2

- 'FRET' = to be hot, furious, BURNING, kindled with anger
- 'ENVIIOUS' = INTENSE jealousy Prov. 24:1
- 'WRONGDOERS' will wither and fade quickly

Stir up TRUST and DELIGHT in your heart vs. 3-11

- 'TRUST' enough to keep doing good
- 'DWELL' close enough to feed of God's faithfulness
- 'DELIGHT' enough to impact your desires
- 'COMMIT' enough to wait
- 'REST' enough to be patient
- 'CEASE' before anger is my motive
- 'HUMBLE' enough to inherit the land

Challenge: Read the rest of the chapter looking for what 'the LORD' will do.

Auburn Grace Community Church – August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019

## Life Group Discussion Questions – August 11, 2019

**James 1:19-20** 'This you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger; for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God.'

### QUICK REVIEW

1. What does it mean to 'drift from the Bible'? What are some of the different reasons people drift away from spending time in God's Word?
2. The warning signs for drifting are: spending less and less time with God's people, with Jesus, or in His Word? How can you help someone who exhibits these warning signs?

### MY STORY

1. Psalm 37:3 says to "... *dwell in the land and cultivate faithfulness.*" What are some things you do that help you to grow and nurture your daily walk with the Lord? Why do you think we have to be very intentional about working on the confidence we have in Christ?
2. Have you ever come to a place where in your heart you considered that your blessings weren't enough? ...that you felt you were entitled to more? What were the different factors that drove you to that place? How did you deal with this heart condition?

### GOING DEEP

1. Read Psalm 37:1-11. There are thirteen different admonitions for us to employ when it comes to understanding "why good things happen to bad people." Can you identify them all? One reproach is repeated three times and is associated with evildoers. What is the significance of this?
2. Read Psalm 73. Asaph, the author, is incredulous about the prosperity of the wicked. At what point does he begin to sense the ultimate outcome of the unrighteous? Why are we embittered within when we observe the abundance of good fortune of those that scoff at God and us? How do you think God would rather have us respond? Why is that? (see Matthew 5:43-48)
3. As Christians, is it tempting to become envious when good things happen to people who do bad things? How can we guard our hearts from such envy? (see Psalm 37:3-5)
4. The reality is that all the wicked will ever have is here at their time on the earth. This life is the best that it's ever going to be for them. What is the underlying hurdle we must overcome as believers when we compare ourselves to the unrighteous? (see Psalm 37:9-10)

### PUTTING IT TOGETHER:

1. What do you think are some of the challenges to living out each point?
2. Which of the above teaching points are most important for you to remember?