

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, September 18, 2016

Passage: Psalm 67:1-7

Memory Passage: Psalm 67:4

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Psalm 67.** Write down everything you notice about the structure of this Psalm. Be sure to examine the arrangement of the verses in relation to their content, any repetition, the arrangements of bicola and tricola, etc.
- (b) What is the central, or most important, verse in Psalm 67, and on what evidence do you base your answer?
- (c) Verse one is similar to the Aaronic blessing found in Numbers 6:24-26. What similarities do you see? What differences do you see, and what significance do these differences make in the teaching of Psalm 67?
- (d) What is the full significance of the metaphor of God's face shining upon (lit. "among" or "with") His people?

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Psalm 67.** What, exactly, will the nations know if they know God's "way" (don't forget how parallelism is used in Hebrew poetry!)?
- (b) How does God's blessing (v. 1) result in the nations knowing and experiencing God's saving power (v. 2, "that . . .")?
- (c) Who are "the peoples" (vs. 3, 5), and to what covenant is our attention drawn by references to "people" and "nations"?
- (d) What are the reasons the nations should be glad and sing for joy (v. 4b, c)?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Psalm 67.** What is the difference between God "judging" and God "guiding" the peoples/nations?
- (b) Why do you think the Psalmist repeated v. 3 after v. 4?
- (c) What do you learn about God's character from v. 4? Do these characteristics inspire gladness, singing, & joy? In what ways, or, if they do not, why not?
- (d) Why should the nations be joyful over God acting as Judge? Why should *you* be joyful that God acts as the just Judge?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Psalm 67.** What is the "increase" the "earth has yielded," how is this tied to future blessing of God's people, and when does this happen (cf. Rom. 1:1-4)?
- (b) What is the Psalmist calling all the nations to do when he prays that they will "fear" God?
- (c) Explain why Psalm 67 is product of the Abrahamic Covenant and how the prayers in this Psalm are ultimately fulfilled according to Scripture (cf. Gen. 12:1-3; Ex. 19:5-6; Rom. 1:1-4; Gal. 3; et. al.).

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Psalm 67.** In what ways does the blessing of God's presence and His salvation in your life act as a beacon that shows God's way & saving power (vs. 1-2) to a lost and dying world? In what ways are you stifling that light? In what ways might you increase its brightness?
- (b) This Psalm screams the truth that God has always pursued the nations, and that the advancement of His kingdom includes the salvation of people from every tribe, tongue, nation, and people (Rev. 5:9). In what ways are you participating in His mission to reach the nations?
- (c) Spend time in prayer asking God if He desires you to go somewhere else in the world to carry out His mission. Not everyone is called to go to another place to reach the nations, but some are, so why not you? Is He calling you today? Ask Him with a willingness in your heart and mind to go if He calls.
- (d) If you are not called to leave your current place, how will you be more fully involved in reaching the nations with the Gospel? How should the Bible Church be more fully involved in reaching the nations in Cabot and central Arkansas?

DATE: September 18, 2016

PASSAGE: Psalm 67:4

Let the Nations Be Glad!