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# FAITH @ HOME

## WEEK OF JULY 12, 2020

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Some ideas for continuing to ponder Summer Psalms through the week

*A note about how to work through the big ideas and feeling in Psalms with kids:*

*Don't be afraid to let the Psalms guide you into a conversation about big and deep feelings. Kids feel things intensely. Reading and talking about the Psalms can help them to understand that their emotions come from God, that they are not alone in their feelings, and that they have the power to decide how to respond to their feelings. Don't hesitate to read, define, and talk your way through a Psalm – they don't have to be read non-stop. You may want to use a simple or modern translation of the Bible or rephrase with simple words for young children, asking them if they have ever felt that emotion to help them engage with God's Word.*

Try reading or listening to Psalm 73 in several translations this week.

Explore the [Wisdom Psalm Packet](#) below – it's great for children, but teens and adults can grow from parts of this resource, too!

### Trapped and Rescued (verses 21-23)

- ? Can you think of a time when you were feeling sad? Bitter? Discouraged? Disheartened?
- ? Looking at these pictures, how do these make you feel?
- ? Is there a step you took (or might take now) to move from dwelling in grief to the reassurance and joy of dependence on your heavenly Father?



Photo credit: Ben White on Unsplash



Photo credit: Gita Krishnamurti on Unsplash

## Yearning and Depending (verses 24-26)

Reflect on verses 24-26 as you ponder the video and lyrics of "Give me Jesus" by Fernando Ortega:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R1vbUTnnGg0&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R1vbUTnnGg0&feature=emb_logo)

Conversation starters or journal prompts:

- ? Who do you depend on?
- ? Why is that person dependable?
- ? Have they ever let you down?
- ? How did they regain your trust?

## Together (verses 27-28)

How do you feel about this sentence: "For me, it is good to be near God"?

Try a simple all-play journaling craft: Cut a big heart representing God's heart out of a sheet of construction paper, cardboard, newsprint - whatever you have that is big. Cut (and maybe color or decorate) little hearts representing each person who is participating. Write the first part of Psalm 73:28 on the big heart: "But as for me, it is good to be near God." Glue or tape the small hearts on (or near) God's heart. Place it somewhere with a pencil or pen nearby and use it as a family journal spot through the week. As the week goes on, you might want to write or draw:

- Times you have trusted God
- Reasons for taking refuge in God
- Deeds God has done
- Reasons you trust God
- Why it is good for you to be near God

As you prepare for worship next week, you can review and pray about the things that have been shared on the journal.