

SUMMER SESSIONS

Wednesday 12th August 2026 – PART ONE

A. Why the Psalms?

“The Psalms connect our personal walk with God to the corporate life of the whole church of Christ.”

B. Why use the Psalms?

1. Teach Us to Pray
2. They bless us as we Pray

C. How to pray the Psalms?

‘The interpretive key to the Psalms is how the New Testament uses them.’

1. Prayers of Jesus

“Before Christ came among us, God sketched the likeness of this perfect life for us in words, in this same book of Psalms; in order that, just as He revealed Himself in flesh to be the perfect, heavenly Man, so in the Psalms also men of goodwill might see the pattern life portrayed, and find therein the healing and correction of their own.” Athanasius

2. Prophecies about Jesus

3. Words for the Church

“The Psalms are Spirit-inspired words, given to us by God to speak about God and to God.”

D. The Joy of Singing with Jesus...

E. Benefits of reading the Psalms as the songs of Jesus:

1. You can sing in tune with the gospel.
2. You can sing every line of every song.
3. You can sing for joy in Jesus.
4. You can sing centred on Jesus

Four Questions for Every Psalm (from Christopher Ash):

1. What would it have meant for David, or the original psalmist, to sing the psalm?
How would it have expressed his convictions, his hopes, his prayers, his praises in his original circumstances?
2. What would it have meant for old-covenant believers (such as Simeon and Anna in Luke 2) to sing this psalm?
3. What might it have meant for Jesus of Nazareth, as the perfect worshiper, to sing this psalm in his earthly life?
4. What will it mean for us, as men and women in Christ, as the church of Christ, to make this psalm our own today?

SUMMER SESSIONS

Wednesday 12th August 2026 – PART TWO

Psalm 16 - 'Delight in Christ for safety, satisfaction and eternal security.'

Days of International, National and Personal Insecurity.

*How can any of us truly experience the deep peace and joy of authentic confidence in a world
awash with facades of security?*

1. The Kings Prayer v1

2. The Kings Pledge v2-6

No other good v2

No other gods v3-4

No other goals v5

3. The Kings Provision v6-8

4. The Kings Promise v9-11

Acts 2:24-31: Peter quotes Psalm 16:8-11 and teaches that David speaks these words concerning Christ in his resurrection.

Acts 13:32-37: Paul uses three Old Testament references (Psalm 2v7, Isaiah 55v3 & Psalm 16v10) to declare it was King Jesus who was the one God raised from the dead and did not see decay.

'In times of suffering this (v9-11) conveys confidence and promises eternal glory in hope, so that... we do not fear adversity in the present.' Christopher Ash

James Mays says of Psalm 16... *'The Lord fills the personal horizon of the Psalmist. Every one of the prayer's lines in all their variety says in one way or another "The Lord is everything to me." The Lord is my lord, my God, my destiny, my counsel, my vis-à-vis, my security. The whole confesses, "The Lord is my life." **Could I say the same?***