**Psalm 73 – Living for God in Vain? Leader Notes**

1. **What musical instrument(s) do you play?**
2. **Have you ever written a song or a poem? What was it about?**
3. **Read Psalm 73:1 – What truth of conventional wisdom did Asaph question in this song?** (That God is good to His people; that He blesses those who are pure in heart). **What truths or clichés have you heard in church circles that you question whether they’re really true?**
4. **Read Psalm 73:3-5 – What three things did Asaph envy about others?** (wealth v.3,12; health v.4,5; carefree lifestyle v.4,5,12) **Do you ever struggle with envy? Do you envy the same things or different things than Asaph? How do you reconcile the 10th commandment (Do not covet!) with your tendency to envy others?** (We’re all sinful at the core and need a Savior)
5. **Read Psalm 73:6-11 What do health, wealth, and carefree living often lead to?** (Pride, arrogance and conceit). **If you won the lottery, do you think it would negatively affect your character?**
6. **What’s the difference between honest doubt and unbelief?** (Honest doubt can lead to a stronger faith because you’ve examined your beliefs more seriously; Unbelief is a stubborn refusal to believe)
7. **What is unfair in your life?**
8. **Read Psalm 73:16. What is most difficult to understand, accept, or believe in Christianity for you? If we leave envy unchecked in our life, what does it lead to?**  (Bitterness).
9. **Read 73:17 – What is the turning point of faith for Asaph?** (Perspective). **How do we get a clearer perspective?**  (Stick close with a community of faith. If you want to see further, you have to get higher. Worship changes our perspective. When you change the way you look at things the things you look at change.)
10. **Compare the final destiny of godless people (v.18-20,27) with the final destiny of godly people (v.23-26). How does that impact our perspective and faith orientation here in this life? Is there a benefit to godliness in this life, or just in the life to come?** (God holds us, guides us, gives strength to us, is always with us in this life; in the life to come, we will forever be with Him and there will be rewards according to what we’ve done in this life).

Pray and worship together as a small group. Encourage each other to hang on to godly and eternal values. Share the good deeds (73:28) that God has been doing in your life.