



SUMMER IN THE PSALMS



Week Three - Psalm 67

TO THE TEACHER/PARENT

Our goal with the psalms this month is not necessarily to exposit theology in fullness, but to rest in who God is and that He is present. This week's particular psalm is one of rejoicing that all the world belongs to God and all people are invited to worship Him. Pray that our kids see how good God is and how worthy of worship!

- **BIG IDEA:** We are blessed by God to be a blessing to the nations.

STARTER

- **Evidences of Grace**

Ask the kids to share some way they've seen God at work this week. Any good thing, big or small, is a gift from God. Celebrate that together!

- **Discussion**

What would happen if the sun stopped shining on us?

Talk about all of the things we need from the sun to live

What if God stopped shining His love, favor, and grace on us? What would happen then?

SING TOGETHER



PSALM 67

When God rescued Israel out of slavery to Egypt and made them into a new nation, He promised to bless them. He told Aaron, the first priest of Israel and Moses' brother, to say these words:

*"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace."
(Numbers 6:24-26)*

But this blessing was not just for them — He called them to take that blessing and use it to be a blessing to all the other nations (*Genesis 12:2-3*). He called them a 'kingdom of priests', and wanted them to invite others into the rescue He had offered Israel.

Years after, God still wanted to remind His people of their role. He inspired someone to write this psalm, which the people of Israel would sing and remember. Psalm 67 says:

*May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face shine on us—*

*so that your ways may be known on earth,
your salvation among all nations.*

*May the peoples praise you, God;
may all the peoples praise you.
May the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you rule the peoples with equity
and guide the nations of the earth.*

*May the peoples praise you, God;
may all the peoples praise you.
The land gives us a harvest;
God, our God, blesses us.
May God bless us still,
so that all the ends of the earth will fear him.*

[Dialogue Questions - you may use some or all]

- What do you think it means for God to 'make his face shine on us'?
- How did God bless His people?
- Why did God bless Israel? [*'so that His ways may be known', 'His salvation among all nations' v. 2, and 'so that all the ends of the earth will fear Him' v. 6*]
- How has God blessed us? What is the biggest blessing He has done for us?
- How can we use that blessing to bless others? How can we share it so that others will know His salvation?

Revelation 7 describes this psalm coming true, where one day after Jesus returns and restores all things, people from every nation will together rejoice and sing, "*Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.*" (vv. 9-10)

BREAKOUT TIME

Prayer:

God, thank you for blessing us and saving us. Help us to share that blessing of salvation with others around us. Give your Spirit to help us. In Jesus' name, amen.

Craft/Activity:

- Blessing Tree: Like the sun shining on the earth allows trees to grow, God shining His face upon us allows us to grow and bear fruit. Just like the fruit from a tree is good for others to eat, our blessings from God are meant to help nourish others too. Help the kids make this connection as they do this craft.



They will cut out a branch from brown construction paper and glue it to a white paper. Then they will cut out various color leaves from other paper and glue those on. On each leaf they can write something God has blessed them with. It will look like this:

Ask the kids how they can use those blessings to bless others.

- Coloring Page: Use the attached coloring sheet.

BLESS Activity

For kids to do during the week

Because this Story is true, we want to be faithful to live in it. We ask Spirit to help us Bless, Listen, Eat, Speak, and Sabbath (rest & celebrate) in ways that tell the good news of God's Story.

This week focus on the rhythm **Bless**. Is there someone in need you and your family can be a blessing to this week? Pray for the Spirit to give you opportunities.



Psalm 67

May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make His face shine on us