



Recommended Approach

- Prior to our meeting in class, **read Psalm 52 each day** of the week leading up to our meeting. You certainly may do so with your own Bible or use the translation of Psalm 52 provided on the final page of this packet.
- Prior to our meeting, complete the tasks provided on the following pages.
- Bring this study guide along with you to our class meeting.
- Note: you need not to have completed this guide prior to our meeting in order to function well at our class meeting. Do join us whether you were able to spend time with this study guide or not.

Task #1 - "Create / Supply a Theme"

- After reading and meditating on the words of this Psalm ... write out a proposed theme for this psalm.
- You are also free to jot a few words, sentences to provide your rationale for your proposed theme.

Task #2 - "Link with the Back-story"

- After reading and meditating on the words of this Psalm .. Visit 1 Sam. 21:1-10; 22:6-23. Then LIST BELOW several "links" between the backstory and the truths stated in this Psalm.
- You are also free to jot a few words or sentences of rationale or response for each selection.

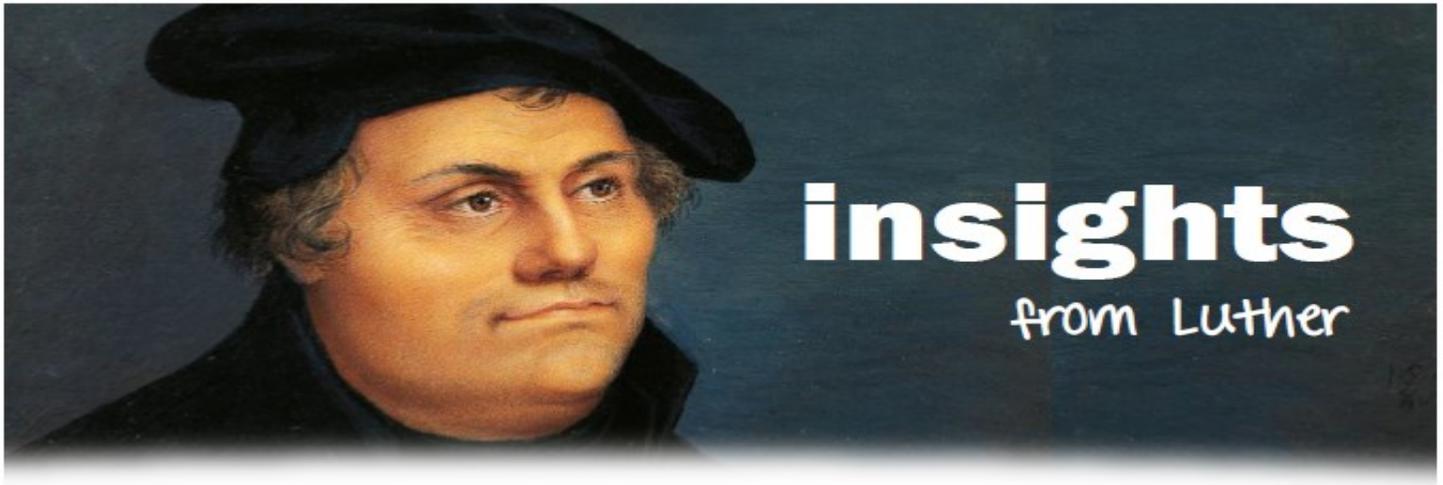


Task #3 - "Select a Memory Verse"

- After reading and meditating on the words of this Psalm ... select a verse you'd be most likely to commit to memory. (Write out the verse below)
- You are also free to jot a few words or sentences to provide your rationale for the selection.

Task #4 - "Take it to the LORD in prayer"

- After reading and meditating on the words of this Psalm ... answer the question: "What Prayer does this Psalm lead you to make?"
- You can answer by composing your prayer below or simply listing some of the "raw concepts / ideas" you'd likely include in a prayer (but aren't currently ready to provide the polish).



Read and evaluate the following excerpts from “Reading the Psalms with Luther” ... feel free to jot down any thoughts you have in reaction to Martin Luther’s insights.

Comments: The 52nd psalm is a psalm of comfort. As the title shows, it speaks of Doeg, who betrayed David and shed much innocent blood (1 Samuel 22). He was a traitor and bloodthirsty dog, who slandered those who hope in God’s Word. He reviled God’s servants and incited kings and princes to shed innocent blood. Despite such malevolent people, this psalm brings comfort. It announces their reward, that they shall be removed from body, goods, house, and land. But the godly shall remain and retain God’s house and His Word.

Prayer: Lord, righteous and almighty God, remember Your weather-beaten and tempest-tossed Church on this earth. Restrain her enemies, destroy their wiles, and hinder their violence. Preserve Your saving truth to us and our children, and grant us to praise You with a joyful heart, now in the Church militant and forever in the Church triumphant. Amen.

Psalm 52

Heading

For the choir director. A maskil by David.
When Doeg the Edomite went and informed Saul and said to him,
“David has gone to the house of Ahimelech.”

Doeg's Sin

- 3 Why do you boast about evil, you hero?
The mercy of God [endures] all the day.
- 4 Your tongue plans destruction;
it is like a sharpened razor,
you who practice deceit.
- 5 You have loved evil rather than good,
falsehood rather than speaking righteousness. Selah
- 6 You loved every devouring word,
you deceitful tongue!

Doeg's Judgment

- 7 Indeed God will tear you down forever.
He will grab you and tear you from [your] tent;
he will uproot you from the land of the living. Selah
- 8 The righteous will see and fear;
they will laugh at him:
- 9 “Here now is the man
who did not make God his stronghold
but trusted in the greatness of his wealth.
He grew strong by his destructive deeds!”

David's Delivery

- 10 But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God.
I trust in the mercy of God forever and ever.
- 11 I will thank you forever for what you have done.
I will hope in your name,
for it is good in the presence of your godly ones.