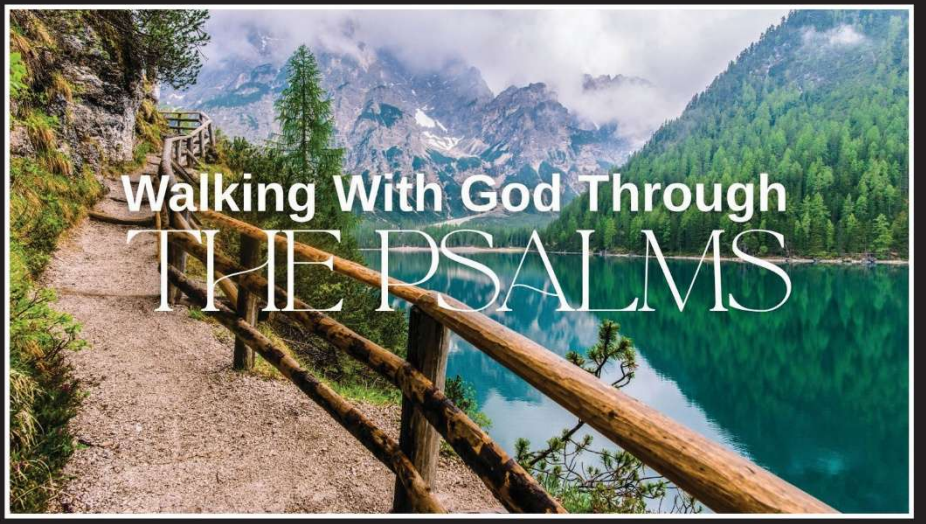




Midweek Study

Dr. Josh Franklin • Senior Pastor



From Obligation to Celebration

Listener Guide

Psalm 122 (NKJV) A Song of Ascents. Of David.

¹ I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go into the house of the Lord."

² Our feet have been standing Within your gates, O Jerusalem!

³ Jerusalem is built As a city that is compact together,

⁴ Where the tribes go up, The tribes of the Lord, To the Testimony of Israel, To give thanks to the name of the Lord.

⁵ For thrones are set there for judgment, The thrones of the house of David.

⁶ Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.

⁷ Peace be within your walls, Prosperity within your palaces."

⁸ For the sake of my brethren and companions, I will now say, "Peace be within you."

⁹ Because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek your good.

Psalm 122 is the third of fifteen consecutive psalms (120–134) known as the "Psalms of Ascent" or "Pilgrim Songs" – the songs God's people sang as they traveled to Jerusalem three times each year for the great Jewish festivals. God's people should express a love for God's house – whether it is the tabernacle, the temple, or today's church. There are **three choices** that help God's people move from obligation to celebration.

1. The **Delight of our Hearts (122:1)**

"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go into the house of the Lord.'"

He is happy for **three reasons**:

A. There is a Place to Go

B. There are People Going with Him

C. He is Physically Able to Go

2. The **Desire** in our Hearts (122:2-8)

V.6-7 - "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem. May they prosper who love you. Peace be within your walls, prosperity within your palaces."

Two desires stand out:

A. **Peace** within God's House (v. 6)

B. **Prosperity** for God's House (v. 7)

ALSO NEVER FORGET: The **Person** of God's House

3. The **Duty** of our Hearts (122:9)

"Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good."

Here are **5 practical commitments** we can make as we seek the good of our churches:

1) We **S_____ UP** at the Church.

2) We **S_____ UP** with the Church.

3) We **S_____ UP** for the Church.

4) We **S_____ OUT** for the Church.

5) We **S_____ OUT** the Church.

"Blessed are those who dwell in Your house; they will still be praising You." - Psalm 84:4