

THE WAY OF THE RIGHTEOUS & THE WAY OF THE WICKED

June 7th, 2026

Psalm 1 // Psalm 1:1-6

Message Context

Psalm 1 serves as the doorway into the entire book of Psalms. Before we enter into praise, worship, lament, thanksgiving, and prayer, Psalm 1 asks us to consider what path we are on. This psalm presents two ways to live: the way of the righteous and the way of the wicked. The righteous are not perfect people; they are people rooted in God and walking with Him. The wicked are not merely “bad” people by human standards; they are people who reject God’s rule and live as though He does not exist. Psalm 1 shows us that true blessedness is not found in temporary things, but in being rooted in the Lord.

CONNECT – Announcements (page 2) & Building Relationships

1. When you hear the word “blessed,” what comes to mind first: comfort, success, peace, happiness, something else? Why?
2. The sermon talked about how quickly the “new” wears off of things we thought would satisfy us. Can you think of something you once looked forward to that did not satisfy you as deeply or as long as you expected?

REFLECT - Out of the Word and Into Our Lives

3. What stands out to you most from Psalm 1? What stuck out to you about the sermon?
4. Psalm 1:1 shows a progression: walking, standing, and sitting. What does this progression teach us about how sin and unhealthy influences often take root in our lives?
5. The sermon described the wicked as those who reject God’s rule, sinners as those who openly practice sin, and scoffers as those who mock God and His ways. Where do you see these kinds of influences most clearly in our culture today?
6. What is the difference between being around unbelievers for the sake of love and witness, and allowing unbelieving counsel to shape your life?
7. What are some voices, habits, or influences that can slowly pull your heart away from God if left unchecked?
8. What does it mean to “delight” in God’s Word rather than merely read it out of duty?
9. The sermon said, “You always do what’s important to you.” How might our schedules reveal what we truly delight in?
10. Biblical meditation is not emptying the mind, but filling the mind with God’s truth. What are some practical ways we can meditate on Scripture throughout the day?
11. The sermon compared knowing God’s Word to studying the real thing so we can recognize counterfeits. How has Scripture helped you recognize a lie, temptation, or unhealthy influence?

12. The sermon said, “The strength of a Christian is determined less by what we do on Sunday and more by what we do Monday through Saturday.” How does that challenge you?
13. Fruit is evidence of life and health. Where have you seen the fruit of the Spirit benefiting others through someone’s life?
14. The sermon emphasized that this psalm is not contrasting perfect people with imperfect people, but people who belong to God with people who reject Him. Why is that distinction important?

♡ PROTECT – Care for one another (divided, gender-specific groups)

15. What path are you on right now? Are there any areas where God is calling you to turn back, sink your roots deeper, or trust Him more fully?
16. The sermon reminded us that we protect our homes, cars, devices, and identities, but often leave our minds unguarded. What is one practical step you need to take to better guard your mind this week?
17. Is there anyone in your life who seems to be chasing temporary things for lasting satisfaction? How can you pray for them and lovingly point them toward Christ?

Announcements

Titus 2 Women’s Ministry Prayer & Coffee – June 13th @ 9:30 am | Men of Vision Breakfast – June 20th @ 8:00 am

Has the Lord gifted you musically? Either in singing or with instruments? We are always looking to grow our Worship Team.

Emerald Crossing Summer Bible Camp: July 12th – 16th – For Ages 2 and up! nvf.life/kidscamp

Resources for Going Deeper

- **Read Jeremiah 17**
- **Only Two Ways to Live – DA Carson:** <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/sermon/only-two-ways-to-live-psalm-1-for-today/>
- **The Truly Blessed Man – Charles Spurgeon:** <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/sermon/only-two-ways-to-live-psalm-1-for-today/>