

## Experiencing God in Exile: Seek Wisdom

Sunday's sermon began our 21 Days of Prayer & Fasting, which is going to focus on the topic: *Experiencing God when Life is Hard*. Over the next four weeks we are going to look at Psalms from "Book 4" of the Psalms (Psalm 90 – 106). These Psalms were written to the nation of Israel when she was living in exile in Babylon. Because of their rebellion and because they would not turn back to God, as a last resort, God had the Babylonians conquer Jerusalem and carry them to Babylon. These Psalms were written to people whose security and identity had been stripped away: there was no king, no temple, no Land; it looked as if their God had been defeated by the gods of Babylon. Life was about as hard as could be imagined! For most of us, there are ways that our lives are hard as well. Today, we begin by looking at a Psalm called *A Prayer of Moses*. May we learn from Moses how to live when life is hard. May we learn to seek wisdom.

**Opening Discussion:** In what ways is life hard for you right now?

### Read Psalm 90

1. What does this psalm teach us about God?
2. What does this psalm teach about mankind?
3. What do you think Moses is asking in verse 11?
4. What does it mean for one to number his or her days (v. 12)? How does this relate to gaining wisdom?

5. What is a heart of wisdom (v. 12)?

6. What might it mean to be satisfied with God's steadfast love (v. 14)?

Steve said:

***The brevity of life should make us desperate for wisdom.*** Our challenge to you during our 21 Day experience is to seek wisdom in at least one specific area of your life. Choose the fear of the Lord (Proverbs 1:29) and seek wisdom. You might think in terms of 1) something foolish you need to **stop** doing (by the grace of God) and 2) some way you need to **start** experiencing God (or experiencing him more fully).

7. Why should the brevity of life lead us to seek wisdom?

8. In what area would you like to seek wisdom during these 21 days? Is there something foolish you need to stop doing? Is there something you need to start doing to experience God more fully?