

ENGAGE THE WORD
WK2 – Psalm 27
(Facing God: His Beauty)

I. ENTER

1. Our world constantly bombards us with different ideals or standards of *beauty*. What makes something beautiful or not?

II. EXPLORE

*The Psalms as a whole give us the prayers (or more specifically, the songs) of God's people wrestling with the character of God and their present circumstances. In Psalm 27, the writer (presumably King David) expresses the desire of his heart to "gaze upon the beauty of the LORD" (v4), to seek God's "face" (v8), and to look upon "the goodness of the LORD" (v13). **READ PSALM 27.***

2. How would you describe the situation the psalmist finds himself in? What obstacles is he facing? What emotions are expressed?

3. What is the source of the psalmist's confidence in the midst of his circumstances?

*The "beauty" of God is a theme picked up in one of Isaiah's "Servant Songs," which prophetically describe the person and work of Jesus. **READ ISAIAH 52:13-53:6.***

4. How does the beauty of God—paradoxically so—find its greatest expression in the ugliness of the cross?

III. ENGAGE

Devotion to Jesus

5. **Reread Psalm 27:4.** What would it look like for you to become "single-minded" in your devotion to Jesus?

Deepening in His gospel together

6. What can we learn from this psalm about how to walk with one another through pain and fear?

Declaring His gospel to others

7. How might you use the themes of beauty, worth, and delight to share the gospel? Is there a family member, friend, coworker, or neighbor that the Spirit is placing on your heart right now?