

Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further ***International Bible Lessons***

Psalms 65:1-13

Sunday, January 15, 2017

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Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The *Class Preparation Guide* includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class so they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible class.

Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further

1. From reading Psalm 65, how might the worshipers have waited for worship to begin?

They would have thought about God and how wonderful their God is and the vows that they have made to God to praise and serve God.

2. Today, how do worshipers wait for worship to begin?

Many times, they look for and visit with family and friends. Some quietly pray as many David described in Psalm 65.

3. How does the description of God in Psalm 65:2 differ from the experiences of those who worship false gods or idols?

God answers prayer, and often with awesome and righteous deeds. Idols have no ears to hear the prayers of people. The evil or demonic powers behind false gods will sometimes give unrighteous answers with evil motives to further enslave their worshipers.

4. When we are overwhelmed by our sins, what does God do for believers? Why can God do this for believers and be both just and merciful?

God forgives repentant believers. God can do this because His only begotten and perfect Son, Jesus Christ, died on the cross and rose again for them.

5. Why is it important for God our Savior to answer our prayers with both awesome and righteous deeds?

We need to know that God does what He says He can do. We need to know that God will always do righteous deeds,

not just awesome deeds to impress people. When Jesus died on the cross and rose again from the dead as the substitute we needed because of our sins and so God could forgive us and cleanse us from sin and send the Holy Spirit to live within us, that was a great and awesome deed, perhaps the most awesome and more righteous deed that God could do for us.

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