

## SONG STUDY – THE DESERT SONG

Instructions are in black – Teaching points are in blue – Questions are in red

### ***Introduction for the Small Group Leader:***

The *Desert Song* like many worship songs we sing is full of references to scripture. As you prepare to teach this lesson, read through the lesson and then get yourself acquainted with the sources in scripture for many of the truths of this song given on the handout (at the end). Pray that God would reveal these truths *through His Word* to you and your group.

The point of this study (and the song itself) can be found in the bridge: *God is still God in every season of life, and therefore we have a reason to worship him*. This study will discuss what it means to worship God in the midst of ALL seasons of life.

### **Listen:**

To begin the study, listen to the song (either download from iTunes or find it on youtube, it is titled the Desert Song and is written by Brooke Fraser). If you or someone in your group is musical, you could have them lead the song and so you can sing it as a group. Otherwise just listen to it. If you listen, don't show them the words yet, practice listening.

After listening, give them a second (or maybe 20) to sit with it and ponder what the song is about.

**ASK:** *From what you heard (or sang) what is the main point of this song? Put it in your words, what is it about?*

→ Talk about it as a group. Get their different responses. See if they agree about its main meaning.

### **Discuss:**

Now that you have heard it, hand out copies of the song to each of your students. Have them read over the words again silently to themselves.

**TEACH:** *Often times it is very easy for us to worship God when life is easy. When life is hard, or hard things happen it is often more difficult to “feel” like worshipping. This song talks a little bit about this as it speaks about praying certain things in every “season” of life.*

**ASK:** *Let's talk about each verse, what is “the season” of life that each verse mentions?*

- the Desert: spiritual dry-ness
- the Fire: trials or pain
- the Battle: spiritual challenges
- the Harvest: when life is easy, and blessings are easiest to identify

Work through the song verse by verse and talk about what each verse means. They may need help with the verses that use classic Christian language that may not be as familiar to the students. **NOTICE:** the first three verses are challenging times where only in the last verse does it talk about *favor* and *providence*.

**ASK:** *Have you ever experienced any of these “seasons” in your life? Which ones? What was it like? Did you “feel” like worshipping during that time? Why/why not?*

**TEACH:** *Each verse talks about having a prayer for each of these seasons. Each of these prayers comes directly out of scripture.*

Have each student look up and read a different verse, making sure you cover each “prayer”. As you work through each verse, discuss what it means and figure out how it applies as a prayer to the season to which it is attached.

**TEACH:** *So as we have seen, in each season of life our prayer can be rooted in the Word of God. But more than that, this song teaches us that we should approach God “in every season.” Look at the ‘bridge’ of the song.*

**ASK:** *What is the point of the song, according to the bridge?*

→ *This whole song says we have a reason to sing and to worship: that God is God.*

**TEACH:**

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**READ:** Psalm 90:2 – *“Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting **you are God.**”*

*The language in this Psalm is funny. You would expect it to say, “Before the mountains... you were God.” But instead it cleverly puts it in the present tense to stress that God was God before the earth was made, God is God now, and God will be God for eternity. What this says is that though the seasons of our life may change, God never does. Our worship should be based on who God is, not how we are feeling or what is currently going on in our life.*

**PRAY:**

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Spend some time praying.

Begin in worship acknowledging that we should worship God because he is God.

Then move to praying according to the season of life we are in. Have them tell God where they are at or what “season” they are in, and then have them recite the lines of the songs, or the scriptures they read in prayer to God. (If they are mature enough, have them pray for each other).

End, again, in worship to God for who He is and the promises He makes in his Word.

## **Desert Song**

- by Brook Fraser

This is my prayer in the desert  
When all that's within me feels dry  
This is my prayer in my hunger and need  
"My God is the God who provides"

Psalm 63:1

Gen 22:8 cf Psalm 23

This is my prayer in the fire  
In weakness, or trial, or pain  
There is a faith proved of more worth than gold  
"So refine me Lord through the flame"

**1 Pet 1:7**

Mal 3:3

(Chorus)

*I will bring praise, I will bring praise  
No weapon formed against shall remain  
I will rejoice, I will declare  
God is my victory and He is here*

Isa 55:17

1 Cor 15:57

This is my prayer in the battle  
When triumph is still on its way  
"I am conqueror and co-heir with Christ  
So firm on His promise I'll stand"

Rom 8:37, Gal 4:7

(Bridge)

*All of my life in every season  
You are still God - I have a reason to sing  
I have a reason to worship*

Psalm 104:33

**Psalm 90:2**

This is my prayer in the harvest  
Where favor and providence flow  
"I know I'm filled to emptied again  
The seed I've received I will sow"

**Gen 12:2,3**

Luke 8:4-15