

Part 1 – Psalm 104
God's Delight in the Details of Creation
Leader's Guide
(Video 24 minutes)

Warm up questions pre-video: (15 minutes)

- ❖ What is a psalm?
 - Basic meaning: “song sung to a harp.”
 - A psalm is a hymn, a sacred song, or a poem.
 - The book of Psalms is composed of 150 poems of prayer and praise of ancient Israel.
- ❖ Who wrote the psalms?
 - There were many authors dating throughout the Old Testament period.
- ❖ What is a “creation psalm”?
 - A psalm that takes us back to God's loving act of creation.
- ❖ Is God active in our lives and his creation today? Or is God inactive in our daily lives like a watchmaker to his watches?
 - Our Lord is active in our lives always.
 - We see God's active love through our Redeemer.
 - Some believe that knowledge of God comes through human reasoning of who God is rather than God revealing himself to us through his word and sacraments.

Read Genesis 1:24–28

- ❖ In the creation story how is man created different than all the other animals?
 - Verse 27 – Only man was created in God's image.
 - Verse 28 – God blessed only the man and the woman.
 - Verse 28 – God gave man authority over God's creation to be a good steward over everything that moved on the earth.
- ❖ What does it mean when God says something is “very good”?
 - Creation conformed to God's intention in the best possible way.

Read Psalm 104

Post-video follow up questions: (15 minutes)

Read Small Catechism questions 110 & 111

- ❖ How does our faith of God as “Creator” help our view of the creation?
 - Our Creator blesses us with food, clothing, home, family, work, play, and all that we need from day to day.
 - Our Creator defends us against all danger and guards and protects us from all evil.
 - Our Creator does all this only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me.

Read Psalm 104:31–35

- ❖ What makes man different than all other parts of God’s creation? How do we see this as a gift from God to his church?
 - We have the ability to pray, sing, and worship God. The rest of God’s creation doesn’t have this ability.
 - This ability allows us to know that God has a personal relationship with us and that our Lord calls us to have a personal relationship with him.

Read Psalm 104:1–11

- ❖ How do we see God’s activity in the creation around us? How do we see God’s activity in our personal lives?
 - We and all of God’s creation are dependent upon God from our first breath to our last.
 - God is in, with, and under all the different aspects of our lives.

Read Small Catechism questions 287 & 291

- ❖ According to Lutheran doctrine how is the real presence of Christ’s body and blood made known to us in the Lord’s Supper?
 - In, with, and under the consecrated bread and the wine.
 - The “sacramental union.”

Read Psalm 104:12–25

- ❖ What does the unity of God’s creation mean for us? What does it mean for our relationship with God?
 - Everything has its place.
 - In Christ by the promise of God’s word, though the world may be toxic and dangerous, as Christians we can live securely knowing our Lord is with us always and we know the end of the story.