



PRAYING THE PSALMS - (PSALM 1:4-5)
DRIVING AWAY THE CHAFF
Women's Discipleship Group
Terri McFaddin
Series #1 Lesson #3

SCRIPTURE FOCUS: *The ungodly are not so, but are like the chaff which the wind drives away. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous (Psalm 1:4-5).*

Key Word: Judgment (Hebrew) Mishpat - A court where a legal case is decided.

OPENING STATEMENT:

Most of us are not familiar with the term “winnowing.” It is a milling process that was used in ancient times to separate grains of wheat or barley from its outer casing called chaff. Grains of wheat for example, would be placed on a flat loosely woven wicker tray. The wheat was shaken together, beaten against the tray, and then tossed into the air. The wind would blow away the worthless outer husk called “chaff.” The valuable grain would fall back onto the tray. The shaking and tossing that goes on in our lives is designed to strip away the chaff and expose our hidden value. There are times when the Lord allows “winnowing” to take place in order to free us from those things that hinder us from living a life that is productive and pleasing to God.

Psalm 138:8 says: *The Lord will perfect those things that concern me.* When the time comes for us to stand in the judgment God’s perfecting grace we cause us to be counted with the congregation of the righteous. As you examine your life, think of the things that are like “chaff.” Then rejoice at the “shake-ups from the Holy Spirit that blows the chaff away and frees us to receive the blessings of the Lord.

OBSERVATION:

In Psalm 1:4-6, list 3 statements that the psalmist makes about the wicked?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

INTERPRETATION:

1. In Psalm 1:5, the psalmist states that the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous. Do you think there a difference between a wicked person and a sinner? Please explain.

2. When and where do you think the judgment will take place?

PERSONALIZATION:

1. What events or practices of the past do you now consider “chaff” in your life?

2. If possible talk about a “winnowing” experience that changed your life for the better.

APPLICATION: Use this time to write a prayer of the deliverance of someone you love that is not prepared to stand in the judgment. Find a scripture that speaks of deliverance.