

**Living Hope
Baptist Church**

*Small Group
Study Guide*

When God is First, We are Free
Psalm 1:4-5

January 22, 2012

This study guide is a resource for your Small Group to use for further study of today's sermon. If you need to find a Small Group, please contact Matt Haste at mhaste@lhbg.org or 843-9462. You can view a list of our Small Groups at www.livinghopewired.com.

A C L O S E R L O O K

P s a l m 1 : 4 - 5

For two weeks, we have considered the patterns of life that lead to blessing. We have examined the character and discipline of the man who is truly blessed. In this study, we will see how verses 4-5 of Psalm 1 describe the results of rejecting God. The wicked do not experience the blessings of God in this life or in the life to come. This study is a good reminder to be praying for family and friends who are facing this reality due to the choices they make.

What comes to mind when you think of the word "wicked"? What individuals do you think of who you would characterize as wicked?

Is it hard to imagine this term being applied to your family and friends who are rejecting God?

Within your group, list a few names of people whom you know that are currently rejecting the rule of God in their life.

L I F E A P P L I C A T I O N

*4 The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
5 Therefore the wicked will not
stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;*

Psalm 1:4-5 ESV

- 1. How is the wicked man described in these verses?**
- 2. These verses describe both the current and eternal consequences of rejecting God. How does the passage describe these? What does this look like in someone's life?**
- 3. Why do you think the psalmist would choose the image of chaff being blown by the wind to describe what the wicked experience?**
- 4. Imagine you were trying to explain these verses to an unbeliever who was offended at the thought of a loving God allowing people to experience an eternal Hell. What would you say to them?**
- 5. Spend some time praying for the people that you listed earlier that they would turn to God and experience His blessing.**