



## EXPLORE THE BIBLE®

Session 5: God's Promise

Suggested Week of Use: June 29, 2025

Core Passage: Psalm 132:1-14, 17-18

### News Story Summary

The City of David, which lies just south of the Temple Mount, was built more than 3,000 years ago and predates the Old City of modern Jerusalem. With some twenty layers of civilization beneath the city, a burst sewage pipe led to excavations that recently revealed a 2,000-year-old Roman road. This limestone road runs for more than a third of a mile from the Pool of Siloam, an ancient *mikveh* used for ritual washings, to the Temple Mount in flat, wide steps alternating between long steps and short ones. This ancient road measures ninety-eight feet wide in places and could accommodate the millions of ancient worshipers who traveled from all over the world to celebrate Passover, Pentecost, and the Feast of Tabernacles. This Pilgrimage Road has been called the most significant biblical excavation in modern history. More important, though, it brings biblical Jerusalem back to life one stone at a time.

For more information on this story, search “City of David Ancient Road.”

### Engage

To supplement the Engage activities, ask: *What are some songs on the radio you sing along with anytime they come on?* Encourage adults to share. Note that singing has long been an important way people express themselves—including in worship settings. Introduce the story about the discovery of an ancient road under the City of David in Jerusalem. Point out that researchers believe the path was traveled by ancient worshipers heading for the temple. Note that those worshipers were known to sing special hymns, called “songs of ascent” as they walked. Ask: *What songs today bind us together as we walk with Christ? How do they encourage us to remember God's faithfulness?* Explain that this session focuses on Psalm 132, which was one of the “songs of ascent” sung as worshipers walked to Jerusalem and approached the temple. Encourage adults to reflect on God's faithfulness in their lives as they study this ancient hymn.

### Challenge

To supplement the Challenge activities, ask: *What does it look like to stand on the promises of God? Why is it significant that all of Jesus's enemies will be defeated?* Encourage the group to share promises they have clung to during times of uncertainty. Review the information about the Pilgrimage Road in Jerusalem. Remind adults that ancient worshipers remembered God's faithfulness by singing songs of ascent. Ask: *What makes it so easy to walk through life without acknowledging God's presence or reflecting on His faithfulness?* Affirm that God kept His promise to David about a royal line of future kings and that Jesus is the ultimate fulfillment of that promise. Close in prayer, asking God to help each adult trust in the promises of His Word more fully as they walk with Him this week.