The Road to Zion - Psalm 84

Opening Question

 If you could plan the perfect road trip, where would you go, who would you take, and what would be your must-have snack for the journey? What makes a journey memorable for you?

General Observation

- What stood out to you most from the passage in Psalm 84 about the pilgrim's journey?
- The sermon described three key points about our pilgrimage: the foundation for strength is the Lord himself (v.5), a fountain available in the valley of Baca (v.6), and the finish line of Zion (v.7). Which of these resonated with you most and why?

Understanding the Message

- In the sermon, Bob explained that "Baca" means "weeping." How does the imagery of passing through a "valley of weeping" relate to our Christian journey?
- What does it mean when Psalm 84:5 says "Blessed is the man whose strength is in you, whose heart is set on pilgrimage"? How does having our "heart set on pilgrimage" change our perspective on life?
- The sermon mentioned that the pilgrims "make it a spring" in the valley of Baca. What do you think this means for believers going through difficult times?
- How does the concept of going "from strength to strength" (v.7) challenge the way we typically think about handling difficulties?

Personal Application

- The sermon contrasted society's focus on retirement and rest with the Christian's focus on our heavenly destination. How might this shift in perspective change your priorities or decisions?
- Bob mentioned that God sometimes allows challenges in our life so we can
 experience how strong He can be. How have challenges in your life revealed
 God's strength to you?

Action Steps

- This week, identify one area where you've been relying on your own strength rather than God's. Make a specific plan to surrender this area to Him daily.
- The sermon mentioned that finishing well in life begins with finishing well today. Each evening this week, take time to reflect, repent where needed, and reset your focus on your pilgrimage.
- Choose one person you know who is going through a "valley of Baca" and find a practical way to encourage them this week.
- Select a verse from Psalm 84 to memorise that will help you maintain your focus on your heavenly destination.