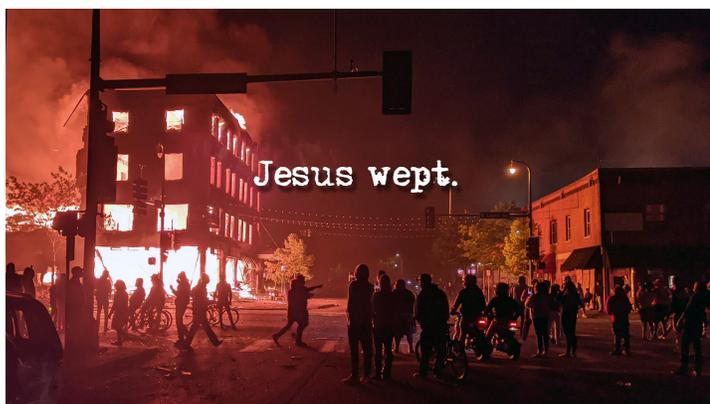


# SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE



**PRINCE  
OF PEACE**  
Called to Connect



## Jesus Wept

May 31, 2020

Angry. Sad. Disillusioned. Confused. Powerless. You may be feeling one or all of those things in light of the events of this week. You're not alone. We've been reminded again that we live in a broken world. While there is much to be done, our first response as God's people is to gather and lament, to cry out to God for healing and direction.

## SCRIPTURE TEXT: PSALM 46

Read the scripture text together as a group.

### BACKGROUND INFO

Lamenting. Sitting with our pain and discomfort and confusion, and crying out to God. Crying out for wisdom. Crying out for healing. Crying out for peace. You and I cannot fix what is broken in America today without the transformational power of the Holy Spirit to work in human hearts, including our own. And so today we lament. We give voice to our pain. We give it God. And we ask God for all we need to do all that God is calling us to do. Lament may not feel like doing anything, but by naming our pain before God, and inviting God into our pain, our pain is transformed into hope, hope that fuels action.

Consider these words from Father Richard Rohr: *"We need both compassionate action and contemplative practice for the spiritual journey. Without action, our spirituality becomes lifeless and bears no authentic fruit. Without contemplation, all our doing comes from ego, even if it looks selfless, and it can cause more harm than good. External behavior must be connected to and supported by spiritual guidance."*

Today we cry out and we listen. And then soon, very soon, we must act, responding to God's call to do justice and love kindness.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Have you experienced other seasons of lament? What was that like for you?
- How can we be confident that God hears our cries of lament?
- What does Psalm 46 have to say to us today?
- How can we begin to respond to what is happening in our state?

**APPLICATION:** Consider what feelings you have experienced in the last week. What can you learn about yourself through those emotions? Bring your emotions to God. Take time to lament. Pray earnestly.