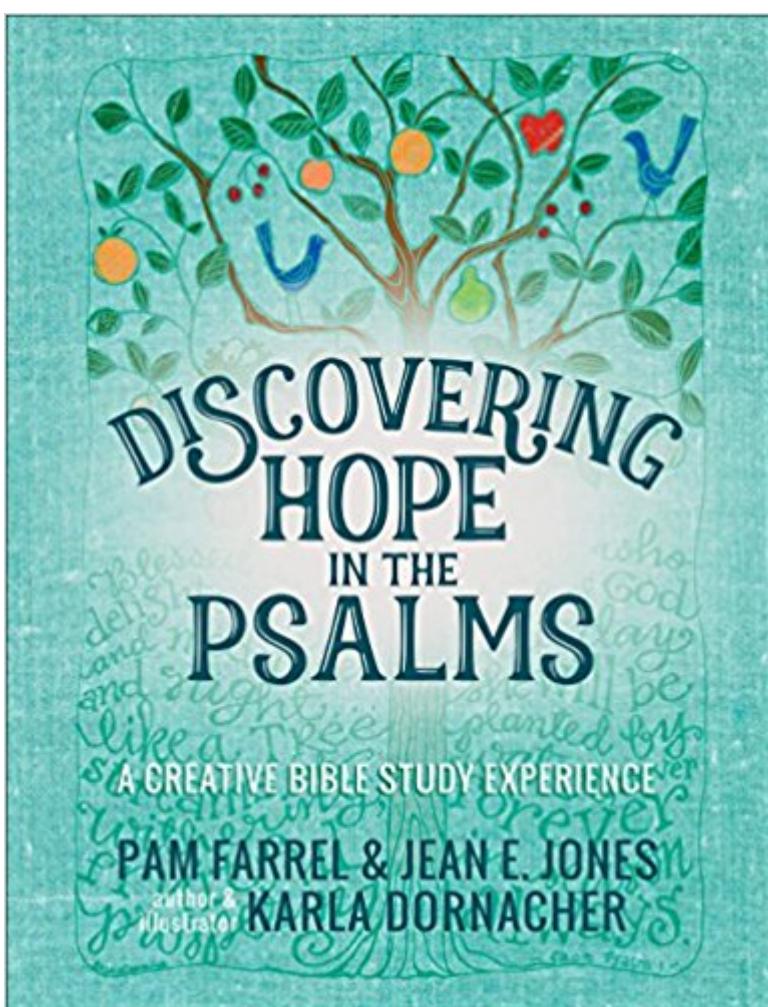


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# Discovering Hope In The Psalms: A Creative Bible Study Experience



## Synopsis

"What an incredibly unique and creative Bible study! It's multilayered, dimensional, theologically rich, touching the senses—enlightening the mind, capturing the heart." Kay Arthur, cofounder of Precept Ministries International "I love the encouragement, inspiration, and delightful details woven throughout." Darlene Schacht, Time-Warp Wife and bestselling author of Messy Beautiful Love This Isn't Your Average Bible Study Explore God's Word on a deeper level and engage with his truth in fresh ways! This study of 10 psalms of hope invites you to discover the incredible design and purpose of inspired Hebrew poetry. Perfect for group discussion or personal reflection, Discovering Hope in the Psalms offers compelling teachings, motivating devotions, and plenty of creative options for interacting with the psalms—including beautiful artwork to color. This discovery book will show you how to...rejoice in God's mercy when sin knocks you downrequest help with hope when troubles surroundrespond with thanksgiving for each answered prayerImmerse your mind, heart, and soul in the hope flowing through the psalms.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Pam Farrel and her husband, Bill, are the authors of Men Are Like Waffles—Women Are Like Spaghetti (more than 300,000 copies sold) and Red-Hot Monogamy. In addition, Pam has written 52 Ways to Wow Your Husband and The 10 Best Decisions a Woman Can Make. They are cofounders and codirectors of Love-Wise, an organization to help people connect love and wisdom and bring practical insights to their personal relationships. Jean E. Jones is a teacher of God's Word, a contributing writer for Crosswalk.com, and a member of the International Society for Women in

Apologetics. She is married to her high school sweetheart, Clay, a Christian apologetics professor at Biola University. Karla Dornacher has written and illustrated 15 Christian gift books. She continues to inspire and encourage others through her coloring books, blog, Bible journaling, and social media. She and her husband, Michael, make their home in Washington State.

Just finishing the first week's study. I am spending 30-45 minutes per day on each lesson. The lesson could be completed in less time or, using the online helps, much more time devoted. Most chapters cover one Psalm. The chapters each include a full size coloring page and a "margin-sized" book mark based on the coloring page. The chapters (and online helps) also encourage performing arts, culinary arts, and literary arts. The Chapters open with the Psalm printed as stanzas, not as verses/prose. Nothing else is on the page except a small decorative trim, leaving plenty of room for marking key words, lists, comparisons, or even art journaling. Although I have only worked the first chapter, I found that the author uses other Psalms and New Testament references to allow scripture to interpret scripture. She also uses spends some time explaining Hebrew "poetry" and figurative language for even greater understanding. While the lessons are not difficult, I have found something to "chew on" in each lesson. The lessons teach information, but also provoke spiritual growth. I expected a skinny book, light on study, heavy on coloring pages. I found a book that encourages the arts while nurturing the soul. If you want to spend quality time in the Psalms, I highly recommend this book.

This book just arrived today and these are my first impressions: The collaboration of the three authors, each with their own special gifts and talents, has created a truly unique Bible study (part of the book's title accurately states "A Creative Bible Study Experience"). This is not just your standard "read the book, study the Scriptures, and answer a few questions" type of Bible study. Author, Jean E. Jones, provides the lesson material. Each chapter begins with Day 1's lesson which starts by introducing the psalm to be studied (Chapter 1, Day 1's lesson introduces the Book of Psalms). There are 5 days of lessons in each chapter. The lesson material is not overwhelming and is stated in the introduction to take about 25 minutes. There is some Scripture to lookup from other books in the Bible but the references are all relevant. Each day's lesson will actually be leading you, using clear directions and prompts to look inward and to write your very own personal psalm which is located at the end of each chapter. I believe this is a very beautiful and unique way to learn and be guided to write psalms which are your very own - psalms you can write out, memorize and cling to when you need hope and encouragement. Author Pam Ferrel, shares her own personal experiences

and inspiration in the Hope Alive section in each chapter. As she writes, "I share honest, personal examples of how studying these psalms has kept hope alive in my own life and how this study will encourage and equip you to hold on to hope." Author and Illustrator, Karla Dornacher, brings her beautiful and hope-filled inspirational artwork throughout this book and provides "techniques for expressing Scripture with art in Karla's Creative Connection at the end of each chapter." Karla has also included a full-page beautifully illustrated passage from the psalm studied in each chapter which you can color using your own creativity - a beautiful way to end each week. And there are other ideas listed in each chapter for creatively experiencing each psalm studied. This would be a terrific study either for a small group, a couple of friends, a mentor and mentee or even just to do on your own. The book includes suggestions and plans for how to use the book for small groups as well as for individuals. The paper used in this book is a really nice heavier-weight type paper which will help prevent bleed-through when using markers for the illustrations (it is recommended to place a blank sheet of paper behind the artwork you are coloring with markers). I had no bleed-through with my Tombow markers but there was some shadowing when I tested with watercolor pencils (Faber-Castell Albrecht Durer) so you might want to test your markers, watercolors or other media first in the end pages of the book in the blank space around the two pages of Karla's beautiful bookmarks which you can use for your own Bible or journaling artwork to see if you need to prep the page with some clear gesso (I use Prima Marketing Art Basics Clear Gesso which is excellent and available on [Amazon](#)). There is a lot of great information about the Psalms - the different types, their history, authors, time periods, their poetic structure and more. This book is very well organized and it is consistently organized using the same structure throughout every chapter from beginning to end. There are helpful instructions for reading Scripture included in the book which is important information for new believers (especially if they are doing this study on their own) and good reminders for more mature believers as well. Just looking through this book to get an overview has given me high hopes and expectations for this study of the Psalms.

I have two books--one for myself and one I bought as a gift for my sister. (It's super "gift-worthy!") With Christmas coming, this would be a great choice. It is beautifully written and illustrated. Riding the crest of the "coloring craze," with plenty of opportunities to be creative, this is--more importantly--an opportunity to color one's life with the truth of scripture. The Psalms, traditionally the Christian's book of hope, are still as powerful as when they were first written, and the authors worked hard to make this a relevant resource for the church. I know of two women's groups who are using it for their next study. But don't let that stop you from sharing it with people outside the church.

I showed it to a woman who is not a Christ-follower, and she was super-interested!

I was excited to receive an advanced copy of this Bible Study. It is spectacular! I always wanted to have a better understanding of the Psalms and the distinctions between the different types of Psalms. This study gave great insights and enriched my understanding in clear concise ways. Better yet, I was able to immerse myself into the Psalms through the creative exercises given. These artistic expressions deepened my experience. Best of all, the study leads you on a journey to pour your heart into writing your own Psalms. This is something I would never have seen myself doing without the easy way you are guided through the lesson. It is very impactful to share your heart with God through your very own Psalm! A Discovering Hope in the Psalms: A Creative Bible Study Experience

This is an inspiring, uniquely creative, encouraging book. It is write-in Bible study that helps us dig deeply into Psalms 1, 2, 51, 23, 73, 42/43, 71, and 30 & 146. The questions are thought-provoking but not overwhelming. There are inspirational thoughts and explanations that make the Psalms come alive. And then the icing on the whole thing is the opportunity to color or pencil in beautiful artwork on coloring pages. What an innovative concept and the authors and illustrator have carried it out beautifully.

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