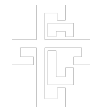


#8 Pray

Praying Like the Psalms

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Part of Connect Group Questions

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Summer GATHER Teaching

Psalm 8 O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.
2 Out of the mouth of babies and infants,
you have established strength because of your foes,
to still the enemy and the avenger.
3 When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,
4 what is man that you are mindful of him,
and the son of man that you care for him?

This study builds on this week's teaching to use the Psalms as a way to be both candidly honest and eagerly praiseful with God, as you walk with Jesus through the days the Lord gives you.

GETTING STARTED

What's your favorite Psalm? Do you have one? **Take moments while with your group to leaf through your "Psalm book" and identify a Psalm with which you resonate.** What is it about the Psalm you connect with? What does it express to God that is important to you? Have some fun sharing this personal side of your prayer life with God.

 **IN THE WORD - read the passages and discuss...**

READ together PSALM 1 - This is the "introductory" Psalm to the entire Psalm-book. What makes this a good introduction to this portion

of the Bible?

READ together Psalm 10:1-13 - Does the idea that God invites us into an unedited honesty in prayer resonate with you? How so? Do you find it a challenge to do this in prayer?

READ together Psalm 90:1-13 In what ways do you try to “insist” in prayer on the nature and character of God? Have you ever “told your soul” what’s right, like some of the Psalms? What was that like?

READ together Psalm 96:1-6 What might help remind you that you could be singing and praying over others when a moment in gathered worship seems to not fit where you are at currently?

READ together Psalm 150 – Why is this a great “finish” to the Psalm book?

MY LIFE - OUR MISSION

One of the great ways we can encourage others (who perhaps are not yet Jesus followers) to take a step “across our welcome mat” to the Savior is to show someone how honest we can be with God. Show them by sharing with them some of the Psalms where the writer is brutally honest about his concerns (**Psalm 73**), his fears (**Psalm 28**), his depressed heart (**Psalm 42**), his need of help (**Psalm 7**), his desire to be forgiven (**Psalm 32**).

Talk together, and pray together, **for those you know** who may struggle understanding how honest they can be with God, and how much God could become a refuge for them.

Let’s connect people in relationships in Christ that allow them the joy of knowing God and speaking with Him honestly and eagerly.