

Sermon Notes

Lord, Teach Us to Pray and Why

Psalm 63

Psalm 63 is the story of _____ life, turning to God's steadfast love when facing his enemies.

It is also the story of _____, the greater David, turning to God's love when facing His enemy.

It is supposed to be _____ story, turning to God's love when we face our enemies.

Devote time to the parts of prayer taught in the Bible:

1. Praise and worship
2. Confession and surrender
3. Requests for your needs
4. Requests for others
5. The lost; grace friends and the nations

Jesus is teaching us in the psalms to pray...

Words of deep love and longing for God. We are called to pray with deep _____ for God.

> v.1 O God, you are my God

> v.1 my soul thirsts for you

> v.1 my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

> v.2 So I have looked upon you...your power and glory.

> v.5 My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food.

Words and active, willful, physical worship. We are called to these physical and verbal expressions of love for God:

> v.1 earnestly I seek you - pursuing hard after God

> v.3 my lips will praise you - my mouth giving praise to God aloud or silent

> v.4 I will lift up my hands in Your name - extending my arms up in longing for God

> v.6 I remember...and meditate on you - pondering the satisfying goodness of God

> v.8 my soul clings to You - expressing deep dependence

Words treasuring God's love for us.

v.3 Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

How is God's steadfast love better than life? God's steadfast love for born-again believers is:

- His _____ vow in the gospel to love us will never change.
- He will continue loving us even when we _____ deserve His love.
- He will continue loving us even when we _____ and disobey Him.
- He will continue loving us even when we _____ or disbelieve His love.
- He will continue loving us even when suffering and affliction makes it appear He does not.

How is this better than life? His love exchanges...

- the life of destruction by Satan's works for life in the indestructible _____.
- this life of sadness for the eternal life of joy with Him.
- this life where enemies hate us for eternal life with no enemies.
- this life of many sins and failures for the life free from all of them.

So that we will be prepared to glorify God when we face our enemies.
God has a plan for the wicked to be punished. (v.9-10)

God has a plan for the righteous to serve Him. (v.11)

Jesus commands believers to:

- > Love and pray for enemies who persecute them. Matthew 5:44
- > Love and do good for enemies who hate them. Luke 6:27
- > Feed and give aid to them. Romans 12:20
- > Repay insults with blessing. 1 Peter 3:9
- > Give them the gospel plead for them to be saved. 2 Corinthians 5:20

The only way we will be able to do these things is if we are renewed in God's love regularly in prayer.

Next steps to grow in prayer this week:

1. Turn off the news and conspiracy theories and spend more time praying.
2. Use the prayer guide and make your own prayer plan.
3. Memorize John 15:5 and pray it often.
4. Memorize one of the psalms and pray it often.