

Student Edition

Psalms Devotionals - Day 1

King and Kingdom

Recite aloud:

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.’ (Matthew 6:9-13)

Scripture Reading

- Read Psalm 1 slowly

Meditate on His Word

Answer the following questions carefully:

1. What are the three actions avoided by the one who is blessed?
2. Are there any ways in which I have allowed worldly thinking or influence into my life?
3. Do I delight in God’s word truly? If not, what stops me?
4. What have you learned about God from this Psalm?

Prayer Today:

- Begin your prayer by reciting the Lord’s prayer from above and praying through it.
- Pray through Psalm 1, applying its language and meaning to yourself and the lives of those around you.
- Pray for those that walk with the wicked, stand with sinners, and sit with mockers.
- Pray to delight in God’s word.
- Pray for yourself and others to be planted by streams of water. Be specific how you want God to do that.
- At least two other times today, recite the Lord’s prayer and let it lead you into a short time of prayer rooted in the language and ideas of that passage.

Psalms Devotionals - Day 2

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Recite aloud:

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
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Scripture Reading

- Read Psalm 2 slowly

Meditate on His Word

Answer the following questions carefully:

1. Why do so many people and nations rebel against God’s rule?
2. Are you ever tempted to trust in other things rather than God and the power of his kingdom? What areas tempt you the most?
3. What does it look like in your life to serve the Lord with fear as the true king of the world?
4. Do you take refuge in God? What does that look like in your life?
5. What have you learned about God from this Psalm?

Prayer Today:

- Begin this prayer by reciting the Lord’s prayer from above and praying through it.
- Pray for wisdom and humility for our national and political leaders.
- Pray that God will reveal to you if there are any ways that you have gone after the ways and rule of the nations and not fully accepted God and his Messiah as king.
- Pray for those that most feel like your enemy.
- At least two other times today, recite the Lord’s prayer and let it lead you into a short time of prayer rooted in the language and ideas of that passage.

Psalms Devotionals - Day 3

King and Kingdom

Recite aloud:

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
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And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.’ (Matthew 6:9-13)

Scripture Reading

- Read Psalm 3 slowly

Meditate on His Word

Answer the following questions carefully:

1. David had two fears that were coming to reality here. He was literally on the run from thousands of troops that were chasing him, and his own son had risen up against him. Everything that brought him identity and value in his life were gone. Have you ever had times where, like David, you felt that everything was going wrong? How do you respond in those times?
2. What two things does David remind himself about God in verses 3 and 4?
3. One thing that David remembers is that God is his shield. Shields though, are used in the midst of battle rather than something that keeps him from the fray. What does this tell us about how God might most often operate in our own lives?
4. What have you learned about God from this Psalm?

Prayer Today:

- Begin this prayer by reciting the Lord’s prayer from above and praying through it.
- Pray for the difficult situations in your life that can make you feel like you are being chased or surrounded. Pray for others in that same condition.
- Pray that others will be reminded that it is God who sustains them and that would come to accept that fully.
- Be honest with God about the frustrations you have in your life right now. Ask him to pour his blessing out, keeping in mind that his blessing may entail continuing to protect you through the battle and not keep you from it.
- At least two other times today, recite the Lord’s prayer and let it lead you into a short time of prayer rooted in the language and ideas of that passage.

Psalms Devotionals - Day 4

King and Kingdom

Recite aloud:

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Scripture Reading

- Read Psalm 4 slowly

Meditate on His Word

Answer the following questions carefully:

1. Have you ever felt like God was not as close as you would like or was not answering your prayers? What can you learn from the directness of the psalmist in verse 1?
2. This was written for agricultural people who had to work hard to provide their own food, but who also relied on timely weather conditions and relief from locusts and similar things to have a crop and be able to eat. When things weren't prosperous and going well, the assumption was that God had abandoned them and to turn to the gods of their neighbors for blessing. What type of situations can make you turn to other things for comfort other than God?
3. What can we learn from the phrase, “Tremble and do not sin”? Does it help you to know that being afraid is not a sin but that we can and often do sin in response to our fear?
4. What have you learned about God from this Psalm?

Prayer Today:

- Begin this prayer by reciting the Lord's prayer from above and praying through it.
- Pray for God to answer you and be honest with him about your concerns and current anxieties.
- Pray for things that are causing the world to panic and fear right now.
- Pray that God will act and show himself to the world as our only source of security and comfort.
- Pray for the peace of the world.
- At least two other times today, recite the Lord's Prayer and let it lead you into a short time of prayer rooted in the language and ideas of that passage.

Psalms Devotionals - Day 5

King and Kingdom

Recite aloud:

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
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Scripture Reading

- Read Psalm 5 slowly

Meditate on His Word

Answer the following questions carefully:

1. A lament is a complaint to a figure of authority. We can often think that we shouldn't complain to God, but the Psalms demonstrate otherwise. What do you need to complain to God about? Not others, but just to God?
2. David praised God that he could come into God's house and be in his presence. How much do you value your ability to be in God's presence?
3. What does it look like for you to take refuge in God today?
4. What have you learned about God from this Psalm?

Prayer Today:

- Begin this prayer by reciting the Lord's prayer from above and praying through it.
- Pray for God to listen to your complaints and take action.
- Pray that God will help you desire his will in your life and not the forces of culture and society around you.
- Pray that God will show us how to take refuge in him.
- Pray that God will surround us with his favor.
- At least two other times today, recite the Lord's Prayer and let it lead you into a short time of prayer rooted in the language and ideas of that passage.

Psalms Devotionals - Day 6

King and Kingdom

Recite aloud:

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
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And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.’ (Matthew 6:9-13)

Scripture Reading

- Read Psalm 6 slowly

Meditate on His Word

Answer the following questions carefully:

1. Have you ever felt like God was rebuking or disciplining you through certain circumstances in your life?
2. Psalmists will often react with God as though they have a parent and child relationship with God. How do you see that dynamic playing out in this psalm?
3. David has been crying out to God for a long time and still waiting for his deliverance. But his faith seems unwavering. What happens to your faith when God does not immediately bring relief?
4. What emotions do you see David bringing to God in this Psalm?
5. What have you learned about God from this Psalm?

Prayer Today:

- Begin this prayer by reciting the Lord’s prayer from above and praying through it.
- Pray that God would not rebuke you in anger or discipline you in his wrath.
- Share the anguish of your soul with God and ask him to deliver you.
- If you are feeling worn out or fatigued from pleading with him and feel impatient, share that with God.
- Ask him to keep you and others away from evil.
- Pray that God will overwhelm the wicked with shame and anguish and turn their hearts to him.
- At least two other times today, recite the Lord’s Prayer and let it lead you into a short time of prayer rooted in the language and ideas of that passage.

Psalms Devotionals - Day 7

King and Kingdom

Recite aloud:

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
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And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.’ (Matthew 6:9-13)

Scripture Reading

- Read Psalm 7 slowly

Meditate on His Word

Answer the following questions carefully:

1. This psalm almost makes it seem as though the author has not completely heeded the advice to not associate with the way of sinners and the wicked. He has made an ally who has now turned on him and accused him of terrible things. Have you ever been mistreated or betrayed by someone close to you? How did you respond?
2. What emotions from the author can we detect by the words of verse 6?
3. Do you go to God for justice and vindication and leave the decision in his hands, or do you feel that you need to appeal to other people and be seen as innocent in their eyes?
4. Do you truly believe that God is a righteous judge, or do you often question his decisions?
5. What have you learned about God from this Psalm?

Prayer Today:

- Begin this prayer by reciting the Lord’s prayer from above and praying through it.
- Pray that you may take refuge in God even during challenging times and trials.
- Pray that God will help you to walk with integrity in all situations.
- Pray for anyone that feels like an enemy to you.
- Pray that your actions will demonstrate to others around you that God is truly king.
- Ask that God will help and reveal himself to those that have gotten themselves into terrible situations through their own actions.
- At least two other times today, recite the Lord’s Prayer and let it lead you into a short time of prayer rooted in the language and ideas of that passage.