

PRAY EVERY DAY June 18, 2023 Resource

*Praying the Psalms: Psalm 116:1-7 (NRSV)*

*The Bible in a Year with KUMC*

This plan is available at KUMC and on the church website.  
This plan can be started at any time.

*Small Group or personal study*

- What was your furthest moment from God this week?
- What was your closest moment to God this week?
- Read Genesis 18:1-15
- What does Sarah laugh at in this passage?
- Read Genesis 17:1-27. What makes Abraham laugh, even falling down on his face laughing?
  - Abraham and Sarah laughed at God's telling that they would have a son when Sarah was 90 and Abraham was 100. What is something you have read about God in the Bible or that God has said to you that was laughable because it seemed impossible or nonsensical?
    - God asks in Genesis 18:14, "Is anything too wonderful for the LORD?" Walter Brueggemann suggests answering "Yes" results in a closed universe that is reliable, steady, and hopeless and that God is not God. Brueggemann suggests the answer of "No" results in the "impossibility possibility" that the free and sovereign God brings with promise, grace, and peace—the wonderful things of God will come to be. How do you answer God's question to Sarah and Abraham?
      - The laughter continues in Genesis 21:1-7, but in this passage with the laughter that came with the birth of Isaac (whose name means laughter) and the fulfillment of God's promise. When have you been able to join in with those like Sarah who saw God's promises realized in their life?
        - Below is a hymn by Charles Wesley. It is the kind that may make us laugh in disbelief or joy at what God could do in us. Try praying it and trying it on for size.

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*Hymn "Give Me the Faith Which Can Remove" by Charles Wesley, 1749*

Give me the faith which can remove  
and sink the mountain to a plain;  
give me the childlike praying love,  
which longs to build thy house again;  
thy love, let it my heart o'erpower,  
and all my simple soul devour.

I would they precious time redeem,  
and longer live for this alone,  
to spend and to be spent for them  
who have not yet my Savior known;  
fully on these my mission prove,  
and only breathe, to breathe thy love.

My talents, gifts, and graces, Lord,  
into thy blessed hands receive;  
and let me live to preach thy word,  
and let me to thy glory live;  
my every sacred moment spend  
in publishing the sinner's Friend.

Enlarge, inflame, and fill my heart  
with boundless charity divine,  
so shall I all my strength exert,  
and love them with a zeal like thine,  
and lead them to thy open side,  
the sheep for whom the Shepherd died.

*Spend time in silence*

*Prayer for others and yourself*

*The Lord's Prayer*

*Share the Love of Jesus because It's All about Relationships*

How will you or how did you share the love of Jesus with  
neighbor today with no strings attached?

*Praying the Psalms: Psalm 116:8-19 (NRSV)*

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