

PRAY EVERY DAY July 9, 2023 Resource

Praying the Psalms: Psalm 146

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.

A Collect for Proper 9 from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Small Group or personal study

- What was your furthest moment from God this week?
- What was your closest moment to God this week?
- Read Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
- In verses 16-19 Jesus notes how John the Baptist was rejected by people for being too serious and rigorous and they rejected Jesus for his eating, drinking, and the sinners he befriended. Those people were rejecting the grace of God from coming into their believing and living by making excuses for why the messengers or message of God did not fit what they wanted. It is a challenge for us. Will we only accept God in a package acceptable that fits our expectations and preferences? Will we accept God in whatever ways God decides to come to us, even in Jesus Christ?
 - In verses 25-28 Jesus notes that we do not discover or find God on our own. God is revealed, understood, and known through God's grace, initiative, and action. All things about God are best revealed and known through Jesus Christ. It is noted that those like "infants" have the grace of God revealed to them.
 - Though Jesus notes rejection in verse 16-30, Jesus persists in sharing the grace of God, because there are people who will receive it. Rejection does not lead to ending Jesus' mission, but Jesus persists in offering the grace of God. Read verses 28-30 and note this invitation is for you. What burdens or yokes have you lived and worked under? What would it be like to come and labor alongside Jesus in work that is freeing and life-giving?
 - When have you faced rejection from people, especially for matters related to faith in Jesus or living faithfully as a Christian such as sharing good news, caring for the poor, or worship of God? What do you need from God to help you persist in sharing God's grace with others at this time?

Hymn "Give 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 the 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?

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