

BIBLE STUDY
October 15, 2018

PSALMS

1. Prayer: Psalm 62 *Trust in God Alone*

- What word, image, phrase stands out for you? Grabs your attention? Jumps off the page? Why?
- What does this psalm teach you about God? Does it give you a new insight?
- What does this psalm inspire you to do?

2. The Psalms of Creation

- 8, 19, 33, 50, 74, 89, 90, 100, 102, 104, 115, 119, 121, 124, 134, 135, 136, 139, 146, 147, 148

3. Psalm 8

- There is a refrain at the beginning and end: how awesome is your name
- Name of the Lord is the sacrament or sign of his reality
- Out of the mouths of babes: *Wisdom 10: 21 Because wisdom opened the mouths of the mute, and gave ready speech to infants* *Matthew 21: When the chief priests and the scribes saw the wondrous things he was doing, and the children crying out in the temple area, "Hosanna to the Son of David", they were indignant and said to him, "do you hear what they are saying?" Jesus said to them, "Yes; and have you never read the text, 'Out of the mouths of infants and nurslings you have brought forth praise.'*
- The insignificance of the human person in comparison to God
- *Crowned him with glory and honor*: the dignity of the human person created in the image and likeness of God
- *You have given him rule over the works of your hands; put all things at his feet*. The human person is the steward of creation

4. Psalm 19: 1-7

- Creation witnesses to the glory of the Creator
- The orderly functioning of creation with sunrise and sunset reveals the knowledge and wisdom of God the Creator
- No voice or word is needed; it speaks for itself. We can readily see the power and wisdom of God by looking at creation
- The Sun: in ancient mythology the sun was the god of law and justice-foreshadows the meditation on the law in verses 8-15
- We also think of Jesus as the Sun (Son) of God, the rising Sun=resurrection. He is the hero, the victor=he conquered sin and death
- He is ruler of the earth

5. Psalm 104

- God is personified as a human person=anthropomorphism
- God skillfully makes rampaging waters and primordial night into a world vibrant with life.
- Chaotic waters are tamed to fertilize and feed the world (Ps 104: 5-18)
- Primordial night was made into a gentle time of refreshment (Ps 104: 19-23)
- A dark and watery chaos is made dry and lighted so that creatures might live (as in Genesis 1: 1-2)
- The psalmist reacts to the beauty of creation with awe (Ps 104: 24-34)
- May sin not deface God's work (Ps 104: 35)