

Summer Psalms: Psalm 96

Life Steps | August 27 & 28, 2016

Day 1

Psalm 96

This Psalm is divided up into four parts that are identifiable by repeated words or refrains: Verses 1-3, 4-6, 7-9 and 10-13. What repetition do you see in each section of these sections? What is the most dominant message you hear God speaking to you in Psalm 96.

Day 2

Psalm 66:5-7; Psalm 77; Psalm 86:1-10; Psalm 96:3

What were some of the “marvelous deeds” of God that inspired them to sing God’s praises? As you consider your life story, journal some of the “marvelous deeds” God has done in your life. Spend some time verbalizing out loud your praise for God’s active presence in your life.

Day 3

Psalm 96:3-6; Psalm 95:1-3; Psalm 81:9; Exodus 20:1-4

Why is the Lord “most worthy of” (entitled to) praise and the gods of the culture are not? What are some of the gods or idols that American Christians worship? Reflect and identify where you are most vulnerable when it comes to idol worship. Write a prayer that reflects your desire to turn from your idols and worship God alone. Read your prayer daily for the next 7 days.

Day 4

Psalm 96:3, 7-13; Psalm 97

Like an orchestra conductor, the Psalmist is inviting all peoples of the world to join in the praise of God. How inclusive is the Psalmist’s invitation? Reflect upon the people you know who appear to be far from God. Journal how they might benefit from a relationship with Jesus. Pray for them daily and begin to strengthen your relationship with them, listen to their story and share parts of your God story when appropriate. Invite when the time is right.

Day 5

Psalm 96:9; Psalm 95:6; Psalm 100:2; John 4:24; Revelation 19:1-10

Write your own definition of worship? Why is worship important to you? Journal the titles of your favorite worship songs. Write a short Psalm of praise that reflects who God is to you.

Day 6

Psalm 96: 10, 13; Psalm 51:4; Romans 14:1-13

What questions would you like to ask God about his judgment? What does “he will judge the people with equity” mean to you? What about judgment stands out to you most in the Romans passage?

Day 7

Psalm 34; Psalm 23; Psalm 42; Psalm 139; Psalm 100; Psalm 150.

Quickly scan all six Psalms. Select the one that most reflects your thoughts and feelings and use that Psalm to guide you in prayer. Sing your favorite worship song throughout the day.