

PRAYER SERVICE WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7TH, 7PM

Join us outside in the pavilion or on Facebook and use this Guide to pray with us.

INTRO

Welcome to Prayer Service! In the midst of our busy lives in a crazy world, we are meeting together once again to immerse ourselves in the presence of God, the word of God, and the people of God so that we can be empowered to serve the mission of God—because our vision is to live lives that thrive in Christ. We are praying through each of the Psalms to help us with this. Psalm 8 is a particularly beautiful and majestic song of praise that reminds us of the bigger picture. Sometimes, we need to focus on the details and face what is right in front of us. But sometimes, we need to be reminded of the wider focus—we need perspective to put these immediate concerns in the proper context. Psalm 8 gives us a massive perspective of God's glory and our place in creation to help us remember that the things which consume our attention, the things which trouble us in this life, are, after all, not too big for God. While the details of our lives and concerns that trouble us matter to God, they are ultimately small pieces in a much bigger story. It helps to pause often and remember this; God's word in Psalm 8 will do that for us if we let it. Let's pray.

• PAUSE

"As I enter prayer now, I pause to be still; to breathe slowly; to re-center my scattered senses upon the presence of God." (Lectio365)

Pause and pray

As we read **Psalm 8** together, be open with the parts that confuse or challenge you; meditate on the parts that stand out to you:

"1 LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory in the heavens. ² Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger. ³ When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, ⁴ what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them? ⁵ You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor. ⁶ You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet: ⁷ all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild, ⁸ the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas. ⁹ LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!"

SONGS

"Revelation Song" Click Here - https://youtu.be/0FrhDJa3XCM

VERSE 1

Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain Holy holy is He Sing a new song to Him Who sits on Heaven's mercy seat

CHORUS

Holy holy
Is the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come
With all creation I sing
Praise to the King of kings
You are my ev'rything
And I will adore You

VERSE 2

Clothed in rainbows of living color Flashes of lightning rolls of thunder Blessing and honor strength and glory And power be to You the only wise King

VERSE 3

Filled with wonder awestruck wonder At the mention of Your name Jesus Your name is power breath and living water Such a marv'lous mystery yeah

CCLI Song # 4447960 Jennie Lee Riddle © 2004 Gateway Create Publishing

Psalm 8 – Sung to the tune of "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" (Ode to Joy)

VERSES 1-2

LORD, our Lord, majestic is Your name throughout the whole wide earth; You display and set Your splendor o'er the heav'ns which show Your worth. From the mounts of infant children, You establish strength and praise. Make the enemy and vengeful cease before Your wondrous ways.

VERSES 3-5

When I see Your glorious heavens, moon and stars which You ordain; What is man that You regard him, son of man with care maintain? Yet You made him slightly lower than the angels high above; Crowning him with glory, honor, just beneath the God of love.

VERSES 6-9

You made him to rule creation, put all things beneath his feet— Sheep and oxen, beasts and cattle, birds of heaven, fish of sea; All that swim within the pathways of the sea declare Your worth. LORD, our Lord, majestic is Your name throughout the whole wide earth.

Translated by Julie and Timothy Tennent © 2017 Seedbed Publishing

PSALM 8:1-2

"1 LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory in the heavens. 2 Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger."

One commentary says, "The mighty God, whose glory is displayed across the face of the heavens, appoints (and evokes) the praise of little children to silence the dark powers arrayed against him," (*The New International Version Study Bible* © *2011*). If the praises of children are given such privilege and power, what might God do through our collective worship? What would it take for us to approach God with the innocence and wonder of a child today?

Reread the passage and prayerfully reflect on the parts that stand out to you. *Pause and pray*.

PSALM 8:3-5

"³ When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, ⁴ what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them? ⁵ You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor."

If you're able to see the stars from where you are, pause to behold the sky. If not, picture the night sky in your imagination. One rough estimate states that there are over 70 billion trillion stars in the universe. There are approximately 100 billion stars in our galaxy, which is one of about 10 billion galaxies in the observable universe alone. On a clear night, the human eye can see only about 2,500 stars in the sky: when we look up, we're seeing a still frame of the infinitely vast heavens, all "the work of God's fingers." How can we see all this and not feel awe that He is "mindful of us"? The God who created all of this loves humanity—loves you and me—enough to become of us, bear our sin, and die to defeat death for us. How majestic is His name.

Reread the passage and prayerfully reflect on the parts that stand out to you. *Pause and pray*.

• PSALM 8:6-9

"⁶ You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet: ⁷ all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild, ⁸ the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas. ⁹ LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!"

Now, imagine the wonders of creation, the rich diversity of animals and plants all over the earth. One study estimated that, between macro-life and micro-life, there are as many as 1 trillion different living organisms on our planet... ...God created humanity to rule and reign in His image. In so many ways, we have failed to care for the earth. In sin, we have fallen from this glorious calling and brought destruction to this incredible gift of life. Yet, by His grace, we are being restored, and we have the promise that one day Christ will return and *everything* will be made new.

Reread the passage and prayerfully reflect on the parts that stand out to you. *Pause and pray.*

• INTERCESSORY PRAYER

What are your burdens for prayer tonight—for your life, for those you know, and for the world? In light of the grandeur of creation and the glory of God we have been meditating on, take time to lay down your burdens before His throne and pray for these specific needs.

SONG

"Way Maker" Click Here - https://youtu.be/29lxnsqOkmQ

VERSE 1

You are here moving in our midst I worship You I worship You You are here working in this place I worship You I worship You

CHORUS

(You are) Way Maker Miracle Worker Promise Keeper Light in the darkness my God that is who You are

VERSE 2

You are here touching ev'ry heart I worship You I worship You You are here healing ev'ry heart I worship You I worship You

VERSE 3

You are here turning lives around I worship You I worship You You are here mending ev'ry heart I worship You yeah I worship You Lord

TAG

That is who You are, That is who You are That is who You are, That is who You are

BRIDGE

Even when I don't see it You're working Even when I don't feel it You're working You never stop You never stop working You never stop You never stop working

CCLI Song # 7115744 Osinachi Kalu Okoro Egbu © 2016 Integrity Music Europe

Closing

"Father, help me to live this day to the full, being true to you in every way. Jesus, help me to give myself away to others, being kind to everyone I meet. Spirit, help me to love the lost, proclaiming Christ in all I do and say. Amen." (Lectio365)