

Tuesday, November 22

² I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things your name and your word.

1. How does posture in our prayers speak of what we want to communicate to the Lord?
2. How does bowing down toward his holy temple magnify our thanks to him?
3. Why do you think David specifically notes the Lord's steadfast love and faithfulness as reasons for his thanks?
4. How have the Lord's steadfast love and faithfulness been experienced in your life?
5. How are the steadfast love and faithfulness of the Lord related to the exaltation of both his name and his word?
6. What words of the Lord are you the most thankful for, along with the assurance that he will always fulfill what he says?
7. How have you shown this thankfulness to him recently?

KTFK: and word / to fall. / are exalted / has never / for he / above all, / His name / allowed us

Song: "Great is Thy Faithfulness"

Prayer: "I too, O Lord, praise you for your steadfast love and faithfulness. Yes, there have been times when I doubted you – times when I didn't see how your love was actively at work. But in the end, you have always been proven right. You have always been proven loving to your children. You have always been proven faithful. No man or woman who has ever lived has a just case against you. Praise be to you, O Lord. Amen."

Wednesday, November 23

³ On the day I called, you answered me; my strength of soul you increased.

1. How does God's responsiveness to our calling out to him reveal his loving and faithful character?
2. Have you experienced this from him?
3. What do you think it means to have your strength of soul increased?
4. Why is it so important for us and our lives?
5. What have you been calling out to God for lately?
6. How does our thanksgiving for his earlier answers help us in our prayers?

KTFK: him humbly / of need, / of those / who with / always answer / our time / He will / us in / to souls / plead. / giving strength

Song: "On Eagles' Wings"

Prayer: "Lord, by far the greatest experience of your steadfast love and faithfulness has been my experience of your saving grace. I too called to you in my sin, and you, in your love, answered me. You did strengthen my soul, and continue to each day. Thank you, O Lord, for this life-changing gift, and for what it says about who you are. Amen."

Thursday, November 24 (Thanksgiving Day!!)

*⁴ All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, O Lord, for they have heard the words of your mouth,
⁵ and they shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord.
⁶ For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly, but the haughty he knows from afar.*

1. How might these kings of the earth be related to the "gods" referenced in verse 1?
2. What is it that will bring these kings to also give thanks to the Lord?
 - a. How might this be related to our actions of praising the Lord before the gods?
3. Which specific aspect of the ways of the Lord is mentioned in verse 6?
 - a. Why would this be especially important for kings to understand?
4. What similarities are there between people in their sin and the standard attitude of kings?
5. How might haughtiness express itself in the lives of people?
6. How can this Thanksgiving Day be used by you to purify your humility before him?

KTFK: those with / will with / much with / not the / the Lord / pride; only / only ones / Kings are / abide. / lowly hearts / who struggle

Song: "From Ocean unto Ocean"

Prayer: "Lord, I know that pride is at the heart of my fallen nature, and that only a work of your Spirit can break me from it. I also know that pride can sometimes keep me from openly praising you among the gods because I care too much about what they think of me. Help me to be truly humble by voicing your truth and praising your name before all, that they might hear your words and be drawn to you in true faith as well. Amen."

Friday, November 25

⁷ *Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life;
you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies,
and your right hand delivers me.*

⁸ *The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me;
your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.
Do not forsake the work of your hands.*

1. How often do you feel as though you walk in the midst of trouble?
2. What kind of trouble is David referring to?
3. When are we most likely to have enemies?
 - a. Why do we often seek to avoid doing the kinds of things that make enemies?
4. If we were to openly praise the Lord for his word of truth before the gods today, would that tend to make enemies?
5. How much do you think this consideration should factor into what we do or say?
6. What has God fashioned you for?
 - a. Are you seeking to be what you were made to be in Christ, trusting in the protection and care of the Lord?

KTFK: troubles will / God will / can live / until forever / knowing no / lead me, / and I / From now / my faithful / impede me. / in peace

You may want to sing: “It is Well with My Soul”

Prayer: “Lord, I praise you for giving me the freedom to live in peace and joy even when troubles surround me. Help me to live into the fullness of what you have created me to do so that one day I might not be embarrassed before David and all those who faithfully walked before me, but take my own place among all those who lived by faith despite the risks. You are so good. You are so loving. You are my all in all. Amen.”

Saturday, November 26

Read the entire passage again and review the key thoughts from each day. Which did you find most important for you this week?

Nov 25 - From now / until forever / my faithful / God will / lead me, / and I / can live / in peace / knowing no / troubles will / impede me.

Nov 24 - Kings are / not the / only ones / who struggle / much with / pride; only / those with / lowly hearts / will with / the Lord / abide.

Nov 23 - He will / always answer / us in / our time / of need, / giving strength / to souls / of those / who with / him humbly / plead.

Nov 22 - His name / and word / are exalted / above all, / for he / has never / allowed us / to fall.

Nov 21 - Before the / gods our / songs we / raise; his / name alone / we seek / to praise.

Family Worship 2022

November 21-26

Psalm 138

Week One Of Advent

Kids and Parents: See if you can unscramble the daily
KTFK - Key Thought for Kids (Answers on back page)

Monday, November 21

¹ *I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I sing your praise;*

1. Why is it important that we give thanks to the Lord with our whole heart?
2. What portions of our heart are often given to other things?
3. Whom does David mean to refer to here as “the gods”?
 - a. Are there other gods?
 - b. Are there things that seek to be gods, or to be treated as gods?
4. How would singing praise to the Lord in front of these “gods” be an especially powerful expression of thanks to the Lord?
 - a. Have you ever had opportunity to sing praise to the Lord before the gods?
5. What is your favorite song of praise to the Lord?
6. When is the last time you really sang it to him?

KTFK: to praise. / songs we / we seek / name alone / Before the / raise; his / gods our

Song: “Praise to the Lord the Almighty” or your favorite song of praise.

Prayer: “Lord, there are many in the world who desire the praise of others. In fact, in given situations, we ourselves desire the praise of others. Help us though, Lord, to reserve all our praise for you alone. And may our praises resound in the ears of all those who secretly desire to be treated as gods, so that they might be reminded that you alone deserve our praise. Amen.”