

WORD FOR THE DAY: Pardon

April 6

“For your name’s sake, O Lord. Pardon my iniquity for it is great.” Psalm 25:11

That’s a beautiful cry from Psalm 25 because what David is thinking is, “I don’t bring my iniquity to you because it is small. I bring my sin to you because it is **GREAT**.”

Because...you know...little sins we don’t feel so bad about. Little sins we take to God because they don’t make us look all that terrible. They’re respectable in our eyes. I mean everyone struggles with pride. I’ll take that to the Lord. But when your sins are great...do you go to the Lord? That’s what David does.

And what’s compelling is the desire behind his cry for pardon. His desire is that the Lord’s name be exalted, not his own name exalted. David has no regard for his own name. He wants the name and fame of the Lord to be regarded.

“For your name’s sake, O Lord. Pardon my iniquity for it is great.”

You see, the real beauty of the gospel isn’t only that through the work of Jesus on the cross God pardons us from our sin and iniquity.

It’s not only that we are set free from the law of sin and death. It’s not just that Jesus is highly exalted through his resurrection power over the grave.

It’s not just that God pardons us. It’s not only that he says to us “you can go.” “You are free and in the clear and I won’t hold any of this against you.”—for that’s what pardon is: forgiveness.

The real beauty of the gospel is not only that we are pardoned, but that we are also **welcomed**. God invites us to himself. He not only says, you can go...he says come and stay. We are not merely pardoned. We are welcomed and we are wanted.

REFLECTION

- Do you see God as welcoming, inviting you to intimacy with him? How can you better experience this reality?

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Heavenly Father, we thank you that you are our perfect Father. You invite us to yourself and you desire a close relationship. Pardon my iniquity for it is great. I pray that my life be lived for your glory and not my glory. Amen.