

IN HIS PRESENCE

"The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior. He will exult over you with joy, He will be quiet in His love, He will rejoice over you with shouts of joy."

Zephaniah 3:17

## Last Week's Key Thought

• God's presence isn't attained. It's recognized.

# Preparation

#### How do we prepare ourselves for the presence of God?

## Psalm 63:1-8

<sup>1</sup>God, You are my God; I shall be watching for You; My soul thirsts for You, my flesh yearns for You, In a dry and exhausted land where there is no water. <sup>2</sup>So have I seen You in the sanctuary, to see Your power and glory. <sup>3</sup>Because Your favor is better than life, my lips will praise You. <sup>4</sup>So I will bless You as long as I live; I will lift up my hands in Your name.

## Psalm 63:1-8

<sup>5</sup> My soul is satisfied as with fat and fatness, and my mouth offers praises with joyful lips.
<sup>6</sup> When I remember You on my bed, I meditate on You in the night watches,
<sup>7</sup> For You have been my help, And in the shadow of Your wings I sing for joy.
<sup>8</sup> My soul clings to You; Your right hand takes hold of me.

## 1. Empty Our Heart

- "...My soul thirsts for You, my flesh yearns for You, In a dry and exhausted land where there is no water." – Psalm 63:1
- What place of need do you have that needs to become a playground of praise toward God?
- <u>Key Thought</u>: A heart that's full of other things cannot find God even when looking.

### Jeremiah 29:11-13

<sup>II</sup> For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.
<sup>I2</sup> Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.
<sup>I3</sup> You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.
<sup>I4</sup> I will be found by you," declares the Lord.

## Matthew 6

<sup>25</sup> Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life.
<sup>33</sup> But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.
<sup>34</sup> Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

## 1. Empty Our Heart

• You won't hear God about <u>today</u> if you're stressed and worried about <u>tomorrow</u>.

#### 2. Dedicate Time

- "God, You are my God; I shall be watching for You..." **Psalm 63:1** 
  - Hebrew *"the dawn of day, or morning twilight."*
- "...each morning I will sing with joy about your unfailing love." Psalm 59:16
  "Listen to my words...for to you I pray. In the morning, Lord, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait expectantly." Psalm 5:1-3

### 2. Dedicate Time

- "Very early in the morning while it was still dark Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed." Mark 1:35
- The disciples had been praying since early in the morning and by 9 were preaching in the streets! - Acts 2
- "I, Jesus... am the bright Morning Star." Revelation 22:16

### 2. Dedicate Time

- There's nothing you're going to do in the evening, that will be better for you than what you
  will receive when spending time with God.
- Make time for God in your schedule... You can't afford not to.

### "He who runs from God in the morning will scarcely find him the rest of the day."

John Bunyan

"The first great primary busines to which I ought to attend every day is to have my soul happy in the Lord."

George Müller

#### "I shall run the way of Your commandments, For You will enlarge my heart."





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