

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

¹God, 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. ²So have I seen You in the sanctuary, to see Your power and glory. ³Because Your favor is better than life, my lips will praise You. ⁴So I will bless You as long as I live; I will lift up my hands in Your name.

Psalm 63:1-8

⁵ My soul is satisfied as with fat and fatness, and my mouth offers praises with joyful lips.
⁶ When I remember You on my bed, I meditate on You in the night watches,
⁷ For You have been my help, And in the shadow of Your wings I sing for joy.
⁸ 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

^{II} 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.
^{I2} Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.
^{I3} You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.
^{I4} I will be found by you," declares the Lord.

Matthew 6

²⁵ Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life.
³³ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.
³⁴ 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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