

Sequoia Impact Communities are a place to experience real life & real impact.

To get plugged in email:

impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

Praying Passionately - Feb. 14, 2016

- 1. What was most helpful about this message? What questions did this message raise for you?
- 2. What comes to mind when you think of the word "worship". How would you define worship?
- 3. Read and reflect on Psalm 86. What do you learn about God that causes your heart to worship and respond with thanksgiving? How is the worship of God connected to prayer?
- 4. Read Psalm 86:11-12 in several different translations. What does it mean to have an "undivided heart" towards God? Why is this a challenge for us?
- 5. Read James 1:5-8. What does this passage tell us about having an "undivided heart"? Where do you see divided loyalties in your heart towards God? What is the cause of this? What changes do you need to make?
- 6. How does the Gospel of Jesus heal our divided hearts? Read Jeremiah 31:33-34.
- 7. Read Philippians 2:9-11. What implications does this verse have for you, your friends and neighbours, and our Impact Communities? How should we respond to this truth?
- 8. Reflect on the quote by William Temple found at the bottom of the Sequoia Notes. In what way does this understanding of worship challenge and encourage you today. What steps do you need to take to grow as a worshipper?
- 9. Prayer Exercise: Take some time this week to sit quietly before the Lord in a place where you are free from all distractions. Slowly and prayerfully read Psalm 86. You may want to read it out loud, pausing after each sentence. Allow your heart and mind to centre in on a word or phrase, or attribute of God. Rest in the goodness of God, enjoy His loving presence, and worship Him.



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SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia @10:10 Message...

Praying Passionately

With Ryan Dawson, Lead Pastor February 14, 2016



Big Idea: Our <u>great needs</u> should drive us to <u>worship</u> our <u>great God</u>, who alone can deliver us.

Prayer flows <u>naturally</u> and <u>passionately</u> out of a heart of <u>worship</u>.

Psalm 86 - A prayer of David.

Our Great Needs: v. 1-4

Our Great God:

• God is good and forgiving: v. 5

• God answers prayer: v. 6-7

God is unique: v. 8

God deserves to be worshiped by all nations: v. 9

Philippians 2:9-11 Therefore, God elevated him [Jesus Christ] to the place of highest honour and gave him the name above all other names, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

• God does miracles: v. 10

• God deserves to be worshiped by us: v. 11-12

• God loves us greatly: v. 13-14

God is merciful and gracious: v. 15-17

For worship is the submission of all our nature to God. It is the quickening of conscience by His holiness; the nourishment of mind with His truth; the purifying of imagination by His beauty; the opening of the heart to His love; the surrender of will to His purpose -- and all of this gathered up in adoration, the most selfless emotion of which our nature is capable and therefore the chief remedy for that self-centeredness which is our original sin and the source of all actual sin. William Temple