

Shalom AZ Ministries

In Pursuit of Israel's Redemption



"The Hands that Hold the Universe Hold You"

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Devotion and Discussion Questions

Key Texts (TLV): Ps 105, 15, 135; Mic. 6:6–8; Is. 33:14–17; Mt. 5:14–16; Jn 13:35; Gal. 5:16–25

Every day, whether we realize it or not, our lives are pointing people toward something. Our words, attitudes, relationships, and the things we value communicate something about who we are. Think about a signpost along the road. Its purpose isn't to draw attention to itself but to point people in the right direction. In much the same way, we've been called to be living signposts, pointing people toward ADONAI and revealing His character to the world around us. But when people look at our lives, what are they actually seeing? Are they seeing a reflection of the LORD, or simply more of what they already see in the world?

There is often an emphasis on signs and wonders –there should be signs and wonders following those who believe. But sometimes we become so focused on outward demonstrations of God's power that we overlook something even more important: the inward transformation of our character. It's not simply about walking in the **power** of the Spirit, but about demonstrating the **fruit** of the Spirit. As we look at Psalms 105, 15, and 135, we discover that God's extraordinary works were never intended to be an end in themselves. He has revealed His wonders and drawn us into His presence so that we might **become** living testimonies of who He is.

1. REMEMBER HIS WONDERS AND SEEK TO UNDERSTAND HIS HEART (Ps. 105)

Psalm 105 begins with a call to praise ADONAI, call upon His Name, and make His deeds known among the peoples. *"Sing to Him, sing praises to Him—tell about all His wonders!"* (Ps. 105:2). The psalm recounts God's extraordinary works, from His covenant with Abraham to Joseph's suffering and deliverance, from the wonders in Egypt to His provision in the wilderness. But we're not simply being invited to remember miraculous events. Verse 4 tells us to *"Seek ADONAI and His strength, seek His face always."* The Hebrew word *darash*, translated as "seek," carries the idea of investigating, examining, and pursuing a deeper understanding. Don't just mindlessly praise God for the wonderful things He's done. Seek His face. Seek to understand His heart. What motivates the LORD? What does He love? What makes Him smile? What do His extraordinary works reveal about His character?

Consider everything God did for Israel. He delivered them from slavery, guided them through the wilderness, provided bread from heaven and water from a rock, and brought them into the land He had promised. Yet Psalm 105 concludes by revealing why He did these things: *"so that they might keep His statutes and observe His laws. Halleluyah!"* (Ps. 105:45). All those signs and wonders were intended to lead His people into a relationship of trust and obedience. God demonstrated His faithfulness, justice, mercy, and covenant love. Now, would they trust Him and walk in His ways? We can witness extraordinary things and still miss the heart of God. His miracles are signs pointing us toward something greater—knowing Him, trusting Him, and being transformed into His likeness.

2. BECOME A LIVING SIGNPOST BY REFLECTING HIS CHARACTER (Ps. 15:1–5)

Psalm 15 opens with a powerful question: *"ADONAI, who may dwell in Your tent? Who may live on Your holy mountain?"* (Ps. 15:1). Who may dwell on His holy hill, on Zion, the very place

intended to point the nations toward the LORD? (The Word “Zion” literally means signpost). The answer to the question has nothing to do with how many sacrifices someone brings or how impressive their religious activities might be. Instead, it speaks directly to their character. Verse 2 describes the one who walks with integrity, does what is right, and speaks truth in his heart. That word “integrity” carries the idea of wholeness, something all-encompassing. What we see on the outside should reflect what’s happening on the inside. Truth isn’t simply something coming from our lips; it overflows from a heart shaped by truth. And righteousness isn’t merely something we discuss; it’s something we do. As Micah expressed it, *“Only to practice justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.”* (Mic. 6:8).

The rest of Psalm 15 describes what this transformed character looks like. The one who dwells in God’s presence doesn’t slander, wrong his neighbor, or humiliate those close to him. He honors those who fear ADONAI, keeps his promises even when it hurts, and refuses to exploit others. There’s a generosity of spirit and a concern for the welfare of others rather than a relentless attitude of “What’s in it for me?” This is why God brought His people to His holy hill—not merely to enjoy His presence, but to be transformed into a sign to the nations. We cannot separate our relationship with God from the way we treat our neighbors. If we claim to belong to Him while demonstrating the same selfishness, dishonesty, and corruption that characterize the world, what kind of signpost are we becoming? The world doesn’t simply need to hear about God’s character. It needs to SEE His character reflected in our lives.

3. BECOME LIKE THE ONE YOU WORSHIP (Ps. 135:1–21)

Psalm 135 brings us back to the greatness of ADONAI and His extraordinary works. The psalmist declares, *“For I have known that ADONAI is great, and that our Lord is above all gods.”* (Ps. 135:5). He recounts God’s authority over creation, His wonders in Egypt, and His faithfulness toward Israel. But then the psalm draws a striking contrast between the living God and the idols of the nations. These idols are made of silver and gold, the work of human hands. They have mouths but cannot speak, eyes but cannot see, and ears but cannot hear. Then comes this sobering statement: *“Those who make them will be like them—so will all who keep trusting in them.”* (Ps. 135:18). Think about that. We become like what we worship. When people place their confidence in lifeless idols, they become like the things in which they’ve placed their trust. But when we turn our hearts toward the living God, seeking His face and dwelling in His presence, we are transformed into His likeness.

We may not bow before statues of silver and gold, but we can still become consumed with the things this world values—power, wealth, recognition, success, and our own desires. If these become the objects of our trust, they will shape who we become. It’s easy to magnify what the world calls great while overlooking those who quietly walk in the fear of ADONAI. But God’s heart is different. He values truth, humility, justice, mercy, and faithfulness. As we worship Him, seek His face, and surrender ourselves to His Spirit, His character begins to be reflected in us. This is what it means to be a living signpost. We’re not trying to draw attention to ourselves or demonstrate how spiritual we are. We’re allowing the living God to shape us so that others might catch a glimpse of who He truly is.

CONCLUSION

God’s purpose has never been simply to surround us with signs and wonders while leaving our hearts unchanged. He brought Israel out of Egypt and established them in the land so they

would walk in His ways and make His character known among the nations. Likewise, He has brought us out of darkness into His glorious light so that our lives might proclaim His goodness. Isaiah describes the one who may dwell in God's presence as someone who walks in righteousness, speaks uprightly, and rejects corruption. Then he declares, *"Your eyes will see the King in His beauty."* (Is. 33:17). That's the heart of it. We're invited to behold the beauty of the King and become a reflection of His character.

Perhaps that's where we need to come before the LORD today. Not simply asking Him to demonstrate His power around us, but inviting Him to transform us within. Have we become more concerned with being right than being loving, more interested in what we can gain than how we can serve? Today, invite the Holy Spirit to search your heart. Surrender the selfishness, pride, and attitudes that don't reflect Messiah. We don't have to remain captive to the flesh. We can yield ourselves to Him daily, allowing Yeshua to live in us and through us. Let your prayer be, "LORD, have Your way in me. Make me a living signpost, not simply someone who talks about Your wonders, but someone whose life demonstrates the beauty of Your character." May the world see more and more of Him in us every day.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. According to Ps. 105, what was God's ultimate purpose in performing His extraordinary wonders for Israel?
2. How does seeking to understand God's heart change the way we approach worship, prayer, and His Word?
3. Psalm 15 connects dwelling in God's presence with integrity and how we treat others. How do our daily conversations and relationships reveal whether we're reflecting His character?
4. Psalm 135 warns that people become like what they worship. What modern-day "idols" might be shaping our priorities and attitudes?
5. If someone observed your responses to frustration, disagreements, or difficult people this week, what would they learn about God's character? What needs to change?

6.

CLOSING PRAYER

Abba Father, we praise You for Your extraordinary works, Your faithfulness, and Your covenant love. Thank You for bringing us out of darkness and into Your glorious light. Help us not simply to remember Your wonders, but to seek Your face and understand Your heart. Teach us to love what You love, value what You value, and walk humbly before You. Forgive us for the times we've been more concerned with outward demonstrations of power than with allowing You to transform our character.

Holy Spirit, have Your way in us. Remove the selfishness, pride, and attitudes that keep us from reflecting Messiah. Teach us to walk in integrity, practice righteousness, speak truth, and demonstrate Your love and mercy. May we not simply walk in the power of Your Spirit, but continually bear the fruit of Your Spirit. Let Yeshua live in us and through us so that our lives become living signposts pointing others toward You. May Your wonders be made known among the peoples, not only through what we proclaim, but through who we are becoming in Your presence.

B'Shem Yeshua, In the name of Yeshua, amen.