

Psalm 63:1–11

MPS: We seek God in every season because His steadfast love is better than life.

OPEN

- The Superscription states the author and occasion of the Psalm

A PSALM OF DAVID, WHEN HE WAS IN THE WILDERNESS OF JUDAH.

- Tell the story of David and Absalom. 2Sam 15-18
- Absalom is not just trying to take David's throne, but he is trying to take David's life.
- We get to peak into David's heart and mind when he is faced with a bad situation – He journals his prayer that is now Psalm 63.

Vs 1 *'earnestly I seek you;'*

- When God is all you have, God will be all you need.
- David doesn't ask God to get him out of the wilderness; he asks God for God.
- Look at **Vs 3** *Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.*
- God's love is better than all the stuff I left back in Jerusalem.
- We see 3 phases (seasons) of David's thought/prayer life. Fainting, feasting, and fighting.

We seek God in every season because His steadfast love is better than life.

- What kind of season of life are you currently in? How is your relationship with Him right now?

1. Seek God when you are fainting

Vs 1 *O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.*

- MY GOD: Not a religion of reverence; a religion of relationship "My God"
- Is He YOUR God or another's God, a distant God, or a personal, up close God?

- MIRAGES (lies/idols) in this life give you a mouthful of sand, but God gives you thirst quenching, living, water.

Vs 2 *So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.*

- Clearly David misses God; but in particular, he misses his experience of God in public worship: the **sanctuary** is the place of corporate worship, and God's **glory** is his special presence with his people, which is given and enjoyed in the sanctuary.
- You need to be in the midst of God's people in the sanctuary, in His presence with God's people on Sunday Mornings!
 - It's good for you (like exercise is good for the body, Sundays are good for the soul)
 - It's good for your kids to see it being a priority and good for you
 - It's loving to your brothers and sisters that serve

Hebrews 10:24–25 (ESV) 24 *And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.*

- There is a temptation to run away from God and God's people when we are fainting in the wilderness.

Vs 3 *Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.*

- Hesed of God - refers to God's **covenant-keeping, loyal, faithful, unchanging love, never giving up love** — a love that is rooted in His character and promises, not in our performance. It combines elements of love, mercy, faithfulness, kindness, and grace.
- **Life with God is a blessing to be enjoyed, not a burden to be endured.**
- If you know God is better than life, then your lips should praise him

Vs 4 *So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands.*

- God is too good to us for us to spend our time at the complaint counter.
- Elizabeth Elliot: In 1956, 29-year-old Elisabeth Elliot learned her husband Jim and four other missionaries had been speared to death by the Waodani tribe they were trying to reach. Left with a 10-month-old daughter, she entered a crushing wilderness of grief — fainting, dry, questioning.

- Yet, as she later wrote: “Jim’s absence thrust me, forced me, hurried me to God, my only hope and my only refuge.” The pain drove her to seek Him earnestly, clinging to the truth that His steadfast love is better than life.
- In that fainting season, God became her all — just as David's thirsty soul longed in the wilderness.

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SEEK GOD WHEN YOU ARE FAINTING

2. Seek God when you are Feasting

Vs 5 My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips,

RSV: *My soul is feasted as with marrow and fat, and my mouth praises thee with joyful lips,*

- Do you feel like you’re in a season of feasting on the goodness and riches of God?
- The temptation here is to take it for granted, be ungrateful, coast...

Vs 6-7 when I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night; 7 for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy.

- He went from thirsty to satisfied but his circumstances didn’t change
- I have joy because of the shadow – if your shadow is on me, that means he is near by.
- Elizabeth Elliot’s ministry – Gateway to Joy

Vs 8 My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.

- Only way we cling to him is because he holds us
- Cling – where you are I am, your people, etc.
- Right hand symbolizes strength and presence; while the left hand is never mentioned... he is doing things you can’t see with his left hand, while upholding you with his right hand.

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SEEK GOD WHEN YOU ARE FEASTING

3. Seek God when you are Fighting

Vs 9 *But those who seek to destroy my life shall go down into the depths of the earth; 10 they shall be given over to the power of the sword; they shall be a portion for jackals.*

11 *But the king shall rejoice in God; all who swear by him shall exult, for the mouths of liars will be stopped.*

- Both Paul and Peter warn believers we will face opposition. (and Jesus)
- Even though David is in exile and someone else has ascended the throne, David still calls himself KING... Know your identity as a child of God.
- Dad protecting me from BB kids.
- **Both Satan and Jesus are called lions in the Bible. However, one is on a leash and the other is on the throne.**
- Vs 9-11 represent the King of kings who will one day put an end to all fighting.
- All the fighting and fainting will come to a close when the greater lion comes back again. The only thing left is feasting – with Him – for ever amen.

CONCLUSION:

James 4:8 (ESV) *Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.*

Hebrews 11:6 (ESV) *And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.*

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PRAYER TIME:

Psalms 63:3 (ESV) *3 Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.*

Lord, I praise you because _____

Psalms 63:7–8 (ESV) *7 for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy. 8 My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.*

Lord, I need you to be my help in _____.

Work, family, finances, pursuing You, serving, finding my call, being discipled, discipling others, leading, growing, evangelizing, finding community, being thirsty for God again.

Lord as I cling to you, uphold me/us in the midst of _____
Addiction, apathy, marital strain, doubt, this battle, feeling lost, making a big decision, a move, relational turmoil, temptation

SEEK WEEK

Re-center the church to **pursue the presence of God** and **set a trajectory** for that pursuit for the rest of the year. (IMPORTANCE of this! VOLUNTEERS)

Books to Read

- **Classic:** *With Christ in the School of Prayer* – Andrew Murray
- **New:** *Praying Like Monks, Living Like Fools* – Tyler Staton
- Scripture Reading – sign-ups, come to sit and listen, security (QR CODE)
- 24 hrs of prayer – fasting, sign up for more than one slot, **prayer guides**
- Weds seek night - worship and prayer – adult and youth together
- Thursday seek night – Aaron Nebrija
- FRI and SAT – neighborhood walks
- SUN – prayer service
- SM Reprieve

BENEDICTION

Jude 24–25 (ESV) “Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.”

QUESTIONS FOR GROUPS:

1. Which season do you identify most with, fainting, feasting, fighting?
2. How are you seeking God in that season right now?
3. Have you signed up for Scripture reading and prayer for seek week yet?

Click on the links below to sign up

[**72 hours of public reading of the entire Bible.**](#)
[**24 hours of prayer**](#)