

Songs for Summer

THE BOOK OF PSALMS

Psalm 86

A Prayer of David. *Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me, for I am poor and needy. ² Preserve my life, for I am godly; save your servant, who trusts in you--you are my God. ³ Be gracious to me, O Lord, for to you do I cry all the day. ⁴ Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O Lord, do I lift up my soul. ⁵ For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you. ⁶ Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer; listen to my plea for grace. ⁷ In the day of my trouble I call upon you, for you answer me. ⁸ There is none like you among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours. ⁹ All the nations you have made shall come and worship before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name. ¹⁰ For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God. ¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk in your truth; unite my heart to fear your name. ¹² I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify your name forever. ¹³ For great is your steadfast love toward me; you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol. ¹⁴ O God, insolent men have risen up against me; a band of ruthless men seeks my life, and they do not set you before them. ¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. ¹⁶ Turn to me and be gracious to me; give your strength to your servant, and save the son of your maidservant. ¹⁷ Show me a sign of your favor, that those who hate me may see and be put to shame because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.*

Next Week: Ephesians 2:11-22

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TALK SHEET

1. Do your prayers normally sound like Psalm 86? What are some similarities and what are some differences?
2. Which of the prayer requests in this Psalm resonates with you the most? (1,2,3,4,6,11,12,16,17)
3. How does verse 9 reflect God's mission in the world? (Genesis 1:28; Matthew 28:19-20; Revelation 5:9)
4. What does this Psalm tell us about God? (5,8,9,10,13,15)
5. What are some of the words or phrases David uses to describe prayer? Would you describe your prayers that way? Explain.
6. Pray that God would gladden and unite our hearts!