



Week 36: Psalms 141-150

Study Guide for the week of Aug. 31 - Sept. 6

Personal reflection / journaling exercise

This week, spend time with Ps 148.

The whole creation is called to praise God in this psalm. Have you ever considered how snow or fire would praise God? Take each verse that names a part of creation and picture in your mind how it would praise God, from the sea creatures to hail.

Being fully what God created you to be, whether that's a mountain or a king, is one of the best ways to live a life of praise. In what areas of your life are you most living your praise to God? How can you strengthen your life of praise and become more fully who God created you to be?

Discussion starters

1. Reread Ps 145 and circle the word "all" each time you see it used (in the NLT, also circle the words "everyone"). Now read John 3:16-17. What strikes you as you compare these two passages?
2. Ps 146:1-2 calls us to sing praises all our life. How can you do this? Is this a reasonable expectation in our world today? Read Deut 10:21, Luke 24:52-53, Heb 13:15, and Rev 5:11-12. According to the biblical witness, is a life of praise unreasonable or the only reasonable response to God? What do you need to do in your life to better orient it toward praise?
3. Read Ps 1 and Ps 150, the first and last psalms. How does wisdom lead to praise? What does the path from wisdom to praise actually look like? How has it looked in your life? Is it always straight, easily and quickly navigated? What do the psalms between the first and the last psalm attest teach about the path from wisdom to praise?
4. John Calvin once said the psalms are "an anatomy of all parts of the soul." What have you learned about the anatomy of your soul through your study of the Psalms?

Bible verse to memorize: Ps 145:8