



HUB NOTES | FEBRUARY 11, 2024 | DAVE ANDERSON

The Book of Psalms Intro - Prayerful Worship

1) Why do you think the Psalms are so relatable?

When we meditate on the Psalms, we know that the writers know exactly the human experience. They know the great fear of the unknown. They know the frustration when it seems like God is not acting fast enough. They know the vulnerabilities of life where you so desire vindication and it hasn't come yet. They know the heartache of great loss and the joy of victory. They know incredible betrayal and they know deep love. The Psalms speak to us, but they also speak for us. Often they express our hearts and thoughts better than we can.

Read Psalm 1 & 2.

2) Why do you think the Book of Psalms begins with these two Psalms?

What might be the connection between Psalm 1 and 2 and the rest of the first part of Psalms?

Who can live Psalm 1? Not us, and certainly not Israel. Psalm 2 concludes by saying that all those who take refuge in this Messianic king will be "blessed." It's the same word that is used in Psalm 1. It is through Messiah that we will be blessed and can begin to live out Psalm 1.

Psalm 2 describes the power and authority of God's anointed, but the Psalms go on beginning in Psalm 3 to describe how God's "anointed ones" suffer. In Psalm 3, David is crying out and running for his life from his own son Absalom, saying - everyone is rising up against me. The anointed servants of the Lord suffer & even more detail is given in Psalms 20-22 of the ultimate suffering servant of the Lord, God's anointed one.

3) On Sunday, Anderson talked about our tendency towards "Hero Ball." It's a term taken from the game of basketball where a player who thinks they are the "star" will try to take

over the game when they think their team is losing and attempt to control circumstances and outcomes. They don't want to trust others despite being tripled teamed by the opposition.

Where in your life do you feel like you are playing "Hero Ball"?

How is "Hero Ball" in conflict with genuine prayerful worship that Jesus is inviting you into?

4) On Sunday Anderson talked about prayerful worship:

- Prayerful worship is deep, abiding intimacy with God as we wait and take refuge in His faithful promises & future vindication.
- Prayerful worship keeps us home, rooted and safe, even when we are surrounded by the sounds of fear and anxiety.
- Prayerful worship deepens in us the knowledge that we are already free, that we have already found a place to dwell, that we already belong to God, even though everything and everyone around us keeps suggesting the opposite.
- Prayerful worship gives us space to dwell in God's presence, listen to God's voice, look at God's beauty and taste God's infinite goodness.

Which of these aspects of prayerful worship do you long for the most tonight?

Which of these aspects feel the most impossible to experience?

5) In 2024, we want to memorize Psalm 27 together. What might be a way we as a HUB group could encourage one another in this memorization?

6) Close by praying that we can trust the Lord in prayerful worship.

2024 BREAKTHROUGH PRAYERS

- Father, move our hearts into prayerful worship.
- Father, please give 50 of us the courage to lead a discipleship group for the first time.
- Father, set the Nyamwezi free from Satan's strongholds and help them embrace the family of God. (Use us to build a Christ-centered reproducing church among an unreached people group - the Nyamwezi - by 2030).
- Father, make our campus a place of beauty, safety and refuge that attracts others to Jesus.
- Father, give us the humble mind of Christ as we seek unity together (Phil 2:3-8).