

# Learning to Pray From the Psalms

The God Who Hears  
Our Prayers

Lesson 1  
April 9

All of us need help with prayer. We'll spend the next three months learning to pray from the Psalms. Foundational to everything: **the God who hears our prayers.**

- Who says there is no God according to Psalm 14:1?

## **When we pray, we are praying to our Creator.**

O LORD, our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens.

Out of the mouth of babies and infants,  
you have established strength because of your foes,  
to still the enemy and the avenger.

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,  
what is man that you are mindful of him,  
and the son of man that you care for him?

Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings  
and crowned him with glory and honor.

You have given him dominion over the works of your hands;  
you have put all things under his feet,  
all sheep and oxen,

and also the beasts of the field,  
the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,  
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

O LORD, our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth! (Psa 8:3-9)

- When we look around at the earth and into the skies, what are we actually seeing?
- How will recognizing God as our Creator impact our praying?

### **When we pray, we are praying to our King.**

For the LORD is a great God,  
and a great King above all gods. (Psa 95:3)

- How will recognizing God as our King impact our praying and our living?

### **When we pray, we are praying to our Judge.**

...before the LORD, for he comes,  
for he comes to judge the earth.  
He will judge the world in righteousness,  
and the peoples in his faithfulness. (Psa 96:13)

- Take the time to scan the rest of Psalm 96. How will recognizing God as our Judge impact our everyday perspective and our praying?

### **When we pray, we are praying to our Rock.**

I love you, O LORD, my strength.  
The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer,  
my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge,  
my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.  
I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised,  
and I am saved from my enemies. (Psa 18:1-3)

- My rock. My fortress. My deliverer. My shield. The horn of my salvation. My stronghold. What does David mean by describing God in these ways? How should they shape the way we pray today?

### **When we pray, we are praying to our Shepherd.**

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil,  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me. (Psa 23:4)

- What does Psalm 23 tell us about the God who hears our prayers?
- If God is this kind of shepherd, what can we learn from Psalm 23 about praying?