

Day One: Psalm 47

- Who is told to worship the Lord (1)? In what ways (1)? What are some reasons why God is worthy of praise (2-4)? Which of these reasons speaks most deeply to your heart? Why? Meditate on the phrase “he chose our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob.” What do you think this means for Christians, especially leaders, today?
- Describe God’s ascension (5-6). Imagine yourself there in this moment. Do you see God the Father? Jesus too? What do you hear? Are you singing? Are the lyrics from a song you already know? Or are they extemporaneous? How can you maintain this sort of compassionate connection in your daily life?
- As in verse one, “the nations” are mentioned in verses 8-9. In what context this time? Does it seem like today’s “nobles of the nations” submit to the Lord? In what ways do the “kings of the earth belong to God”? Talk to the Lord about any disconnect you perceive between this psalm and the world today.

Day Two: Psalm 84

- What does the psalmist call God’s dwelling place (1)? What imagery illustrates his desire to be there (2)? What picture does he paint of those who reside in the Lord’s house (3-7)? Consider your own thoughts and experiences of God’s dwelling place. Where do you see them echoed here? What might you add?
- In a brief tangent, what does the psalmist want God to do (8-9)? Then, returning to the theme of the Lord’s house, how does he compare living near God to being anywhere else (10)? Why does he feel this way (11)? How does he conclude this psalm (12)?
- Compare this psalm to 1 Timothy 3:15. Does the psalm accurately depict “the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth”? Why or why not? What can you do, particularly if you are a leader, to make the church truly God’s house: a place of blessing, praise, sustenance, strength, honor, etc.?

Day Three: Acts 20:13-38

- Summarize Paul’s travels (13-16). What did he do in Miletus (17)? What did he say to the leaders from Ephesus, Timothy’s peers, about his ministry (18-22)? What about his plans (22-24)? What is one way you can be as in step with the Holy Spirit as Paul was?
- Paul then directly advised the leaders. Paraphrase all that he said (25-32). What impact do you think his words made on the leaders? What comforted them? What do you think distressed them? Which of Paul’s admonishments here do you find most applicable to you? How do you think God wants you to respond? Pray for grace to walk this out.
- Finally, Paul resumes speaking about his own legacy. What did he say (33-35)? Why do you think he made these remarks? What happened next (36-38)? Engage all your senses to picture this scene. Also consider the emotional climate. Ask God to bless these opportunities to creatively engage the scriptures.

Day Four: 2 Timothy 3:10—4:5

- What does Timothy know (3:10-11)? How are Paul’s words here similar to yesterday’s text, his speech in Acts 20? What does he say about persecution (12-13)? How does this make you feel?
- What does Paul urge Timothy to continue to do (14)? Why (14-15)? What else does he have to say about scripture (16-17)? When have you experienced this power of the Bible to

be true in your own life? Pray that any such biblical convictions would deepen and that others would also experience this maturation.

- What is Paul's final charge to Timothy (4:1-2)? What do you think he means by "be prepared in season and out of season"? What are some ways you can adhere to this charge?
- Why does Paul want Timothy to do all these things (3-4)? Do you think Paul's prediction is correct? Explain. Unlike those who turn away from the truth, what did Paul expect Timothy to do (5)? Ask God to underline one of these final commands. What is one specific way you can exhibit it in your own life and leadership?

Day Five: Titus 1:5-9

- Why did Paul leave Titus in Crete (5)? Compare this verse to 1 Timothy 1:3-4. What did Titus and Timothy share in common? How do you think Paul felt about the continuation of the church planting work he started? What made him so successful in raising up leaders? Take a moment to thank God for Paul and his legacy, which likely includes your own faith in Christ!
- Summarize the qualifications of elders and overseers (6-9). Place each of these requirements into a category such as personal morality, family life, public life, doctrine, etc. Why is it important that leaders exude excellent character across all areas of life? For any shortcomings in church leadership today, or maybe even in your own life, ask God to bring about repentance and renewal.
- Finally, think of a leader whose character is across the board excellent. Pray for that person now, that God would maintain their devotion to Jesus and bless their pursuit to be "blameless."