

**PSALMS FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY
WEEK ONE**

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS!

The Book of Psalms is one of the richest jewels of the Christian faith. One of the current issues regarding the book of Psalms is its relevance for us as twenty-first century worshippers. The tendency may be to think that the Psalms have little relevance for us today because the Psalms were written three-thousand years ago. Hopefully you will be convinced otherwise through a three-week series about the relevance of the Psalms for us today.

Oftentimes, we may think of the Old and New Testaments as two separate books, but in actuality, they are the composition of one book: the Bible. We cannot forget the books and words of the Old Testament although we live in New Testament times. The Old Testament reveals our past as faithful followers of God. In the same way we remember certain dates in our lives (birthdays, anniversaries, etc.) and in our country's history (Memorial Day, July 4, etc.), we should recall and remember the works of God. This is why we celebrate the Church Year (Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, etc.) Fortunately, we belong to a church that chooses to remember the mighty acts of God throughout history and it reminds us of God's faithfulness!

The book of Psalms is filled with some of the greatest accounts about our brothers and sisters who lived before us. Perhaps the most significant thing we find in the book of Psalms is the undeniable faithfulness of God. Through the Psalms, God proves His faithfulness time and again. What does this mean for us today? If we understand God's faithfulness to the people of Israel (Moses, David, Solomon, etc.), then we can be assured that God's faithfulness will never end. We read these words over and over throughout the Psalms: "His love endures **forever!**" What reassuring

Each week, seven Psalm readings will be included in this devotional series to coincide with our current sermon series on the book of Psalms. You are invited to read the assigned Psalm for each day during the week as you deepen your understanding of the relevance of the Psalms in your life today and explore God's faithfulness.

**DAILY BIBLE STUDY
WEEK ONE – PSALMS OF ORIENTATION**

Below, you will find seven Psalm readings for the next week. Each of these Psalms are considered Psalms of Orientation. Examine the faithfulness of God found in each Psalm. Celebrate God as Creator, Protector, Sustainer, Provider, etc. You are also encouraged to lift up the prayer at the bottom of the page each day as you close your devotional time, or you may want to compose your own prayer.

Ask yourself two questions as you read each of these Psalms:

- 1) What can I gain from a historical analysis of each Psalm? (For example, place yourself in the shoes of the psalmist. How would your emotions, reactions toward God, and understanding of the Psalms be different?)
- 2) What is God saying to me TODAY through each Psalm?

Day One: Psalm 8 (Psalm of Creation)

Day Two: Psalm 145 (Psalm of Creation)

Day Three: Psalm 104 (Psalm of Creation)

Day Four: Psalm 33 (Psalm of Creation)

Day Five: Psalm 37 (Psalm of Wisdom)

Day Six: Psalm 112 (Psalm of Wisdom)

Day Seven: Psalm 131 (Psalm of Well-Being)

Prayer:

God of the past, present, and future, I remember and praise You for Your awesome deeds throughout history and I ask You to reveal to me how You are working in my life and in the lives of those around me today. Your faithfulness has lasted from generation to generation; Your love endures forever! Thank you for Your words found in the Psalms. I pray that You might teach me to both understand and live these words for Your glory.

In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.