

November

PSALMS

Nov. 1 – (All Saints’ Day) Psalms 1-5 - What makes Psalm 1 such a great introduction for this collection of Psalms? What verses specifically point to Jesus? (I mark my Bible with a cross next to these verses.) Note the superscription on Ps. 3 – they are helpful in “setting up” the tone of the Psalm.

Nov. 2 – Psalms 6-11 - Psalm 8 is one of the better known Psalms – why? What are occasions when it would be helpful to pray / sing these other Psalms?

Nov. 3 – Psalms 12-17 - Note how contemporary these Psalms are, why do they still speak so accurately about our lives today? How can these Psalms also guide us in our prayer life?

Nov. 4 – Psalms 18-23 In what situations would Ps. 18 bring comfort? How is Ps. 19 a great one for sunrise or sunset? (see Ps. 19:14 for a great daily prayer!) How does Ps. 22 point very directly to Jesus’ death and resurrection? Why is Psalm 23 so well known and loved?

Nov. 5 – Psalms 24-29 How can we have “clean hands and a pure heart” (Ps.24:4)? See also Ps. 25 for the answer. Can we really pray, “I have led a blameless life” (Ps.26:1, 11)? If you could ask “one thing of the Lord” (Ps.27:4) what would it be? What if God would “hide His face from us” (Ps.27:9)?! Where / how do we hear “the voice of the Lord” today? (Ps.29) Are these verses of “the voice of the Lord” true also today? Why or why not?

Nov. 6 – Psalms 30-35 When would be a situation where you might especially pray Ps. 30? Why is Ps. 31 suggested to be prayed on Passion Sunday and Good Friday? When are times that Ps. 32 could bring great comfort to you? How is Ps. 33 such a powerful prayer / song for our nation? How can we “taste and see that the Lord is good” (Ps.34:8)?

Nov. 7 – Psalms 36-41 (end of “book 1”) How do Psalms 36 & 37 give encouragement as we live in an ungodly / evil world? How does Ps. 38 describe depression, and hope through such deep feelings? Many people don’t want to talk about the end of their life – but how does Ps. 39 reflect on the end of life? How does Ps. 41 compare with Ps. 1? (note these Psalms are “book ends” of the collection of “book 1” in the 5 “books” of the collection of Psalms.) Note also Jesus and Judas in Ps. 41:9.

Nov. 8 – Psalms 42-46 What is the “refrain” repeated in Ps. 42:5, 11 & 43:5? What is the answer to these same questions? Ps. 44 (especially v.9-19) does a lot of complaining to God! Is this okay to do? Ps. 46 is sometimes referred to as the Reformation Psalm. Why is this a good designation?

Nov. 9 – Psalms 47-51 How do nations “clap their hands”? (Ps.47:1) What does Ps. 49 teach us about the “gospel of prosperity”? What does God want from us? (Ps.50) Why does He want this of us? Ps. 51 (see 2 Sam. 11-12) is David’s Psalm of confession – how is it also very appropriate for us today?

Nov. 10 – Psalms 52-56 Read 1 Sam. 22 with Ps. 52. How do Ps. 52 - 54 speak to situations in life when it seems the wicked have the upper hand? Why are there so many Psalms praying for God to punish the wicked? Do we have that many enemies?

Nov. 11 – Psalms 57-61 Veteran’s Day Ps. 57, 59, 61 prayers for deliverance (fitting for Veteran’s Day!); Ps. 58 – see also Matt. 26:57-68; Ps. 60 – a lament on God’s rejection of His people!

Nov. 12 – Psalms 62-65 Ps. 62 - Where do you seek “rest”? Ps. 63 - How earnestly do we seek God? Ps. 64 – Can we complain to God? Ps. 65 – How is this a Thanksgiving Psalm?

Nov. 13 – Psalms 66-72 (end of “book 2”) Ps. 66 – What has God done in your life? Ps. 67 – Why should people praise the Lord? Ps. 68 – A triumphal processional Psalm Ps. 69 and 70 - prayers for God to save! Ps. 71 – prayer for God’s help in old age Ps. 72 – note this is ascribed to Solomon – a prayer for wisdom and justice.

Nov. 14 – Psalms 73-78 - Ps. 73 – what was the dangerous focus of the writer? Ps. 74 – God knows all, so why does the Psalmist seem to be reminding God of what is happening? Is that okay to do? Ps. 75 – what are

the “horns” in this Psalm? Ps. 76 – praise for God’s power Ps. 77 – what is the answer to those who cry out to God for help? Ps. 78 – a “family” Psalm of instructions and warnings.

Nov. 15 – Psalms 79-84 Ps. 79 – a prayer for justice Ps. 80 – Note the refrain (sung) Ps. 81 – God speaking about His people. Ps. 82 – Who are the “gods”? Ps. 83 – When does it seem in our lives that God is “still”? What reminders does the Psalmist give for such times? Ps. 84 – How do you feel about being in “the courts of the Lord’s house”?

Nov. 16 – Psalms 85-89 (end of “book 3”) Ps. 85 – How could the Psalmist pray, “restore us again, O God our Savior”? Ps. 86 – How can we have an “undivided heart”? Ps. 87 – What does it mean to “be born in Zion”? Ps. 88 – “darkness is my closest friend”? In a Psalm? Ps. 89 – How is this Psalm fulfilled in Jesus Christ?

Nov. 17 – Psalms 90-94 Ps. 90 – a comforting Psalm at the time of a funeral Ps. 91 – How do we “make the Most High our dwelling”? Ps. 92 – Why “for the Sabbath Day”? Ps. 93 – the beginning of a series of Psalms (93 – 100) of praise to the only true God!

Nov. 18 – Psalms 95-98 When you visit the Grand Canyon – read Ps. 95, especially v.4! Do trees really sing? (96:12) What would a picture look like of Ps.97:11-6? In Ps. 96 the trees sing – in Ps. 98, the rivers clap their hands, the mountains sing (“The hills are alive, with the sound of music...”?)

Nov. 19 – Psalms 99-103 What attributes of God are showcased in Ps. 99? Ps. 100 “closes” the group of Psalms (93-100). Psalm 101 is thought to be a Psalm that David wrote for Solomon before he became king. What Godly counsel does this Psalm give to all of us? Psalm 102 is one of the penitential Psalms. What makes it a penitential Psalm? As you read Ps. 103, what part of David’s life come to mind? What part of your life?

Nov. 20 – Psalms 104-106 (end of “book 4”) How does Ps. 104 compare with Genesis 1? How is Ps. 105 an instructional Psalm? Ps. 106 is similar to Ps. 105, but different – in what way?

Nov. 21 – Psalms 107-113 Compare Ps. 107 with Ps. 105 & 106 (yes, very similar, like a trilogy!) – so why is it considered the beginning of “book 5”? Ps. 108 has portions of Ps.57 and 60 – what hymns, prayers do we have today that also combine other prayers and hymns? Can we really pray like Ps. 109? Isn’t it a sin to wish harm on someone else? Ps. 110 is quoted often in the NT. It is a Messianic Psalm. Ps. 111 and 112 are “twins”. At Passover, Ps. 113 and 114 were sung before the meal, and Ps. 115-118 were sung after the meal. (see tomorrow’s Psalms...)

Nov. 22 – Psalms 114-118 What Old Testament stories does Ps.114 recall? How does Ps.115 and 116 “hallow” God’s name? Ps. 117 is the shortest chapter in the Bible – the shortest Psalm. How many images of Jesus do you find in reading Ps.118?

Nov. 23 – (Thanksgiving Day) - Psalms 119 The longest chapter of the Bible, a devotional Psalm (different from a historical Psalm or Psalm of praise) divided into the Hebrew alphabet, each with 8 verses. How would this be a good teaching Psalm?

Nov. 24 – Psalms 120-123 These are titled, “song of ascents” thought to have been sung when pilgrims made their way “up” to Jerusalem for festival celebrations. Note the references to “lifting our eyes to the hills” (Jerusalem was on Mt. Zion); “going to the house of the Lord”; the Lord watching over them.

Nov. 25 – Psalms 124-127 How can we remember “the Lord is on our side” we can always trust Him? Are there verses in these Psalms that would be a blessing to pray each day? Do you know anyone building a house? (see Ps. 127)

Nov. 26 – Psalms 128-131 Know anyone getting married? (see Ps. 128) Know of anyone who is suffering? (see Ps. 129 & 130) When would Ps. 131 be helpful to sing / pray?

Nov. 27 – Psalms 132-135 Why do we want God to remember (Ps.132 – see especially v.10-18 for “what” we want God to remember)? Ps. 133 -135 are “thanksgiving” psalms!

Nov. 28 – Psalms 136-139 Thanksgiving Day Ps. 136, how appropriate for Thanksgiving Day! (Want a special prayer for the Thanksgiving Day meal?) Ps. 137 is a lament by those in Babylonian captivity – grieving the

destruction of Jerusalem. Verses of Ps. 139 are great at the time of a birth – could it also be a blessing at a funeral?

[Nov. 29](#) – Psalms 140-144 Is it okay to pray for bad things to happen to the wicked? (see Ps.140:8-11) Ps. 141 is a part of the liturgy for evening prayer (see LSB p.245) – how is this an evening prayer? Ps. 142-143 are petitions and Ps. 144 is thanksgivings!

[Nov. 30](#) – Psalms 145-150 (end of “book 5”) Ps. 145 is acrostic (each verse begins with the successive letters of the Hebrew alphabet) – what would a Psalm from A-Z sound like for us today? Ps;. 146-150 are called “the hallelujah Psalms”. Why finish up this wonderful book of songs and prayers with Hallelujahs?