

Monday, 9 September 2019 Psalm 66:1-20

To the choirmaster. A Song. A Psalm. Shout for joy to God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise! Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to you. All the earth worships you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name." Selah

LORD, how awesome are Your deeds. All Creation speaks of You and points to You, it sings of Your majesty without ceasing. Open our eyes to see every detail of Your revealing.

Tuesday, 10 September 2019 Psalm 66:5-7

Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man. He turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot. There did we rejoice in him, who rules by his might forever, whose eyes keep watch on the nations-- let not the rebellious exalt themselves. Selah

Lord, we remember that long and challenging year as we maneuvered our mothers through the sea of the medical system, dealing with confusion, uncertainty, and doubt, You turned all into dry land, and we walked safely through. We saw your mighty hand opening doors, making provision for rooms and support as needed, working out the quagmires of regulations.

Thank You for the peace that filled Betty's mother as she approached the end of her days. At the end, Lord, her anxiety had become anticipation. Praise You for Your great mercy to her and us. And for our equipping to comfort others with the comfort which we had received. 2 Cor.1:3-5

Wednesday, 11 September 2019 Psalm 66:8-15

Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard, who has kept our soul among the living and has not let our feet slip. For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried. You brought us into the net; you laid a crushing burden on our backs; you let men ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a place of abundance. I will come into your house with burnt offerings; I will perform my vows to you, that which my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble. I will offer to you burnt offerings of fattened animals, with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams; I will make an offering of bulls and goats. Selah

I know, Lord, that You were testing us to demonstrate Your power and goodness. I know that out of this challenge came to a greater knowledge of You, that our eyes gained in clarity and that we now see You in greater detail and with increased understanding. I know that this trial has brought us to increased

maturity in You, but Lord, we need Your Spirit to continue to enable that pure joy in our hearts.

Thursday, 12 September 2019 Psalm 66:16-20

Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for my soul. I cried to him with my mouth, and high praise was on my tongue. If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. But truly God has listened; he has attended to the voice of my prayer. Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me!

Lord, You listen, and You hold and guide us. Your love is steadfast; constancy is Your Name, You answer even when we don't see because the seeing is still beyond us.

We thank You that in your time, You gathered our mothers into Your gentle arms, bringing them both into the home they so earnestly desired. We praise You that both are with their Lord, the One they adored and longed to be with.

Friday, 13 September 2019 Psalm 119:53

Hot indignation seizes me because of the wicked, who forsake your law.

Lord, it is both with indignation and sorrow as I watch those who make a mockery of Your just law. This comes in all forms: those who pursue a rationalist philosophy and deny You; those who claim that they are under grace not law; and those who depend on Your mercy to cover them as they continue to sin.

Give me the wisdom and discernment to speak of You and Your grace to all, that I may have the blessed feet of one who brings good news.

Saturday, 14 September 2019 Psalm 119: 55-56

I remember your name in the night, O LORD, and keep your law. This blessing has fallen to me, that I have kept your precepts.

I do have a problem, Lord, remembering Your name and meditating on Your gracious law during the middle of the night. I tend to be upset because I have awakened.

Lord, let this blessing fall to me when I awake during the night: that I will be filled with thanksgiving, filled with the glory of Your presence, filled with sheer beauty of Your Word, filled with a burden of compassion for the lost and hurting, and grateful to have that precious time to be with You.

Lord's Day, 15 September 2019 Exodus 20:1-2, 8-11

And God spoke all these words, saying, "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of

slavery. ... "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

Lord, I know in my head that this day, this day of remembrance, is a special day, a jewel, a gift from You to me. Your commandment to set it aside, to keep it holy, to spend it with You, is a call from You to me to enjoy a great blessing. When, Lord, will that knowing become so engraved in my heart that I will begin on Monday to meditate on the pleasures to come at the end of the week? O, Lord, help me to live in anticipation of the Lord's Day, that day when I am invited to spend the entire day in Your presence.

Voices Together is available as two annual volumes of meditations based on Psalm 1 through 75 and Psalm 76 through 150. A companion book, *The Love Story*, is a 22 week series of meditations based on Psalm 119. They are available through the Fellowship of Ailbe bookstore at www.ailbe.org/bookstore/christian-discipline

VOICES TOGETHER

Daily Meditations from the Scriptures



September 9-15, 2019

Prayer of the week, based on Paul's prayer in: Ephesians 3:13-21

So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory. For this reason, I kneel before the Father, from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

LORD, we pray that in the coming year, the [congregation] will grow in the power of Your love, that we will exercise every fiber of our being in the declaration of the immense scope of that love, and that we will spare no effort to bring others into the righteousness, peace and joy that is life in the Kingdom. Amen

Voices Together is the result of a series of meditations on the Psalms and other Scriptures. I felt I was running dry on the series, examining the fear of the LORD, and decided to use some writings of about ten years ago.

Voices Together is published daily on the website of the Fellowship of Ailbe, www.ailbe.org; along with material by other writers to encourage and assist in our walks as disciples of Jesus Christ. All Scripture is from the ESV unless otherwise noted. These messages can also be received as daily emails or in a monthly printed version by sending a request to:

Pastor John Nunnikhoven, The Church at Prison, Inc.
PO Box 8318, Essex Junction, VT 05452 or to prior@ailbe.org
The Fellowship of Ailbe, (www.ailbe.org)
Realizing the presence, promise and power
of the Kingdom of God.