



**P S A L M S**  
THE LANGUAGE of PRAYER

**PRAYING OURSELVES INTO A NEW (TRUER) WORLD**

*He lays the beams of his chambers on the waters; he makes the clouds his chariot; he rides on the wings of the wind. -Psalm 104:3*

As I drove the girls to school this morning, I wanted to remind them of God's faithful presence with them throughout the day. I could've simply said as much (and often have), but instead chose to dial up an old hymn on Spotify as we drove along Providence Road. "The Lord is never far away, but through all grief distressing. An ever-present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing." Its an older hymn (Sing Praise to God) with a newer beat and tune thanks to *The Sing Team*. Why go that route? Because we all know that, somehow, there is power in adding poetry and melody to an idea. It sinks deeper. It grabs our imagination, our sentiments. It stirs the emotions and the worship of the heart.

This is what the Psalms do. They don't just declare that God is holy and exalted in creation. They sing of His riding on the wings of the wind. They don't just announce that God sustains His creation. They stir us to worship the God who daily waters the mountains and the cedars of Lebanon (v.13,16), who provides refuge for the storks and rock badgers (v.18), who makes darkness (v.20), and renews the face of the ground (v.30).

The Psalms do their thing in us as we slow down and ponder each poetic line, as we imagine and visualize the world that is being put to canvas, as we *pray ourselves into that world* and the promises and purposes of God which sustain it. And just as there is strength and blessing *for us* in singing the lines of an old hymn to God in prayer, there is life and power *for us* in praying the poetry of the Psalms back to God each morning and night.

**THIS WEEK'S PSALMS**

Monday, Sept 16.....*Morning*—Psalm 27| *Evening*—Psalm 26  
Tuesday, Sept 17.....*Morning*—Psalm 32| *Evening*—Psalm 33  
Wednesday, Sept 18.....*Morning*—Psalm 81 | *Evening*—Psalm 119:33-56  
Thursday, Sept 19.....*Morning*—Psalm 37 | *Evening*—Psalm 39  
Friday, Sept 20.....*Morning*—Psalm 31 | *Evening*—Psalm 35  
Saturday, Sept 21.....*Morning*—Psalm 41 | *Evening*—Psalm 45  
Sunday, Sept 22.....*Morning*—Psalm 7 | *Evening*—Psalm 5

**QUESTIONS to CONSIDER about EACH PSALM**

- 1) What is this Psalm about?
- 2) What is felt?
- 3) What is requested?
- 4) What is declared?

**PHRASES about GOD or PETITIONS to GOD WORTH REMEMBERING or MEMORIZING**

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