

Day One: Psalm 13

- Regarding his relationship with God, what does David feel like he has long endured (1)? What about his emotions (2)? Other people (3)? What sort of relationship makes it possible to start a conversation like this? What inspiration can you draw from David's words and approach for your own prayer life?
- What demand does David issue to the Lord (3)? What two things does he claim will happen if God does not comply (3)? What does David's boldness say about the strength of his bond with the Lord? Pray for a strengthening of your own bond with him. What are some ways you can walk this out?
- What is the great "but" of David's pleas and struggles (5)? What brings him joy (5)? What does he sing (6)? Why (6)? Sometimes the simple act of entering into God's presence to pray can change our outlook. When has this been true in your life? Give thanks to the Lord for these breakthroughs.

Day Two: Jeremiah 29:4-9

- Whom is God addressing in this text (4)? Summarize what he wants his people to *do* while they are in exile (5-6). How does he want them to *pray* (7)? Even though they are interceding for the city, who else will benefit from their prayers (7)?
- Do you think of prayer as a Christian responsibility? Why or why not? Meditate on the phrase "seek the peace and prosperity of the city." What people and places does God want you to pray for in this way? Consider your faithfulness to this call. Think of one idea to become even more faithful and put it into action this week.
- What does the Lord speak out against (8)? Why are prophets to be avoided (9)? Maybe they also pulled the people away from their duty to intercede in prayer. What normally distracts you from prayer? Ask God to remove these roadblocks.

Day Three: Habakkuk 1:2-4

- What is Habakkuk doing (2)? What does he perceive to be the Lord's response (2)? What is God making him view (3)? What does Habakkuk think the Lord tolerates (3)?
- Like Psalm 13 from day one of this week, here is someone being quite bold before God in his discontent. It's the beginning of an argument between the Lord and Habakkuk. Do you feel free and safe to argue with God? Talk to the Lord about your feelings on this issue. Ask him for an increase in freedom in this area.
- How does Habakkuk describe what he sees all around him (3)? What are his conclusions about all of this destruction (4)? Take a moment to write your own description of something that you think is not right with the world. Read it out loud to God. Be silent for a minute. What response do you sense from the Lord?

Day Four: Luke 11:5-13

- What scenario did Jesus explain to his disciples (5-6)? How does the man respond to his friends' petition (7)? What will he actually end up doing (8)? Why (8)? What was Jesus' point in telling this story (9)? What happens when we ask, seek, and knock (10)?
- What do you think of the contrast between the impetus of friendship and the impetus of audacity? What role does "shameless audacity" play in your prayer life? What evidence is there that the power of prayer is something you believe in and count on? Think of one thing that seems audacious to ask of the Lord. Each day this week, pray to God about it with a posture of persistent asking, seeking, and knocking.

- What father-son imagery did Jesus invoke to illustrate his point (11-12)? How did he characterize those who give good gifts to their children (13)? What do you think of that statement? How does God's gift giving compare to earthly parents' gift giving (13)? With the Holy Spirit comes power. Thank God that such power enables you to effectively intercede for others.

Day Five: Luke 18:1-8

- What was Jesus' purpose in telling his disciples this parable (1)? Set the scene of the parable and describe the two characters (2-3). What did the widow want the judge to do (3)? How did the judge respond (4)? What did he eventually decide to do (4-5)? Why did he think this was a good idea (5)?
- Imagine what it was like to be a widow in Jesus' time, with no source of provision or protection. When you are in a place of vulnerability and insecurity like that, how does it impact the way you pray? What pushes you to "cry out to God day and night" and keep coming back to him? How might finding yourself in this situation actually be a gift? Ask God for grace and resolve to pray for others in this way, too: for friends, family, church leaders, our city, our nation, and the world. Give it a try right now.
- How does Jesus compare God's response to that of the judge (7-8)? In conclusion, what question did Jesus ask (8)? Why do you think he asked this? How does it relate to prayer? Pray you'd be full of faith to "always pray and not give up."