

Ps. 145 Discussion Questions

Outline of Pastor Mike's Sermon

- Introduction

- Structure of the Gospel narrative
 - Creation- God Is Holy
 - Fall- We Are Sinners
 - Redemption- Jesus Saves
 - Restoration- Jesus Sends Us

- Table of Contents
 - Personal Response to the power and person of God
 - Proclaiming the greatness and goodness

- Power and Person (v.1-9)
 - The format of the psalm
 - The worshiper declares the resolve to worship because of God's work and his character
 - The comprehensive nature of the psalm- around 18 references to "all" or "every"
 - Alphabetic acrostic
 - v.1-2- Enthusiastic praise
 - Most translations- read my God, the King or O King- as if to recognize King is not just a personal designation, but recognition of God's sovereignty over all
 - v.3-6- Recounting the Lord's acts of power
 - v.7-9 Recounting the Lord's display of his character
 - Good to all and mercy toward all- common grace

- Greatness and Goodness (v.10-20)
 - This response extends past David to the creation and the saint
 - V.10-13- A description of the Lord's greatness- words like glory, power, kingdom and dominion
 - V. 13 [The LORD is faithful in all his words and kind in all his works.]- not included in the Hebrew text that shapes the Jewish canon, but found in multiple others including the Greek Translation of the Old Testament and other ancient versions

- V.13-16- Reaffirmation of common grace
 - Matthew 6.25-34
- V.17-20- God's relationship and dealings with those who belong to him
- V.21- A Crescendo of Worship
- Implications
 - The power of God's redemption and the faithfulness of his person is most often displayed through human agents.
 - Moses and the plagues
 - Elijah and the fire from heaven
 - The role of the prophet
 - Jesus
 - 2 Corinthians 4.1-6
 - Because Jesus is revealing his kingdom and making all things new, we, as his people, obey, serve, give, and go.

Discussion Questions

Feel free to choose what questions will be most helpful to your group to grow in their understanding of the Scripture, learn how to better read the Bible for themselves, and faithfully apply it to their lives.

Read Ps. 145

1. In this Psalm we see a picture of a person who is so overwhelmed by the greatness (majesty and power) and goodness (moral excellence) of God that he exalts God and proclaims it to others.

a. Have you experienced this too? Have there been an occasions in your life where the unsurpassing greatness and goodness of God has driven you to tell others about what he has done for you?

b. Why don't we do this more? What is it specifically that blinds us to or overshadows the goodness of God?

2. All throughout human history God has chosen to use human beings to fulfill His purposes. It is actually the norm for God to work through people (elders, prophets, patriarchs, kings, Jesus, apostles, etc.), rather than to intervene

directly apart from them. Among other things, this reveals the great privilege and responsibility that human beings have in God's world.

a. How does the fact that God's preferred way of acting in the world is *through* people—even when they are fallen—impact you? Does it surprise you?

b. Does it feel more like a privilege or a weight of responsibility?

c. What does this reveal about the importance of humanity and your value as a human being in God's world?

d. Have you taken this responsibility to heart or do you think it is something you resist or ignore?

e. How does this fact address the common frustration that God is inactive in the world?

3. Where has God sent you that you might tell of what He has done?

a. What are your key spheres of influence where he has given you influence and or favor?

1) Are their particular demographics or subcultures in society that He has given you a heart for or favor with?

2) Are their geographical regions that God has given you influence in or a heart for?

4. What does obeying, proclaiming, serving, giving and going look like in the arenas where God has sent you?

5. How are you growing or are being challenged to grow in your faithfulness as a witness in these areas?

Suggested Prayer Prompts:

- Pray that you would be more aware of opportunities where you can be evidence of God's power and character for others.

- Ask the Lord how you might be more faithful in these opportunities to be a witness, and pray for the faith and strength to do it.