



# Midweek Study

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## WALKING IN THE GRACE OF GOD

### PSALM 86

We can turn to the psalms of David for encouragement, inspiration, correction, inner strength and vision.

#### I. We Rely on God's Grace to Meet Our Needs (86:1-7).

*<sup>3</sup>Be merciful to me, O Lord, For I cry to You all day long.*

*<sup>6</sup>Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer; And attend to the voice of my supplications.*

In the midst of his trouble, David cries out to God for help in verses 3 and 6 because he knows God's grace and mercy are sufficient to meet his needs—not because he deserves them, but because he needs them from a gracious God.

As soon as you try to pay Jesus back for all He has done for you, you are undercutting the foundation of grace that saved you in the first place. It is not grace if you pay it back.

#### II. We Respond to God's Grace by Declaring His Glory (86:8-13).

David recognized the exclusive nature of God and declared His greatness.

*<sup>8</sup>Among the gods there is none like You, O Lord; Nor are there any works like Your works.*

David asks for an undivided mind to fear God because he knows how easy it is to have a divided loyalty between God and other things.

David seeks to wholeheartedly glorify the name of God forever.

*<sup>12</sup>I will praise You, O Lord my God, with all my heart, And I will glorify Your name forevermore*

We ask for grace because we are needy and because God alone deserves our praise, honor, and glory.

### III. We Appeal to God's Grace Based on His Word (86: 14-17).

David wants his enemies to see God's hand at work and so "be put to shame" (v. 17).

In other words, David wants his enemies to see the supremacy of God.

*<sup>17</sup>Show me a sign for good, That those who hate me may see it and be ashamed, Because You, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.*

David's pleas are not merely cries of desperation, but appeals to God's character as revealed through his Word.

Even though David was being attacked and hunted, he could rely on God's character as revealed in Exodus 34:6-7

*<sup>6</sup>And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, <sup>7</sup>keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation."*

*"Meditation on the law of God is a limitless ocean of delight, of which only the shallowest borders may ever be communicated from one soul to another. The fullness of the ocean can find expression only in the soul's most intimate communion with God Himself." Derek Prince *Chords from David's Harp**

#### THINGS TO GLEAN FROM PSALM 86

**God is accessible and compassionate:** God is good and forgiving ready to hear and answer when we cry out, even when we feel weak.

**The Power of Proper Perspective:** While recognizing our troubles, we are encouraged to focus on God's greatness, and ultimately, our security in Him, rather than focusing on our fears.

**A Cry in Trouble:** David feels alone, poor, needy, and under attack from arrogant enemies, yet trusts in God's saving power.

**God's Character:** The psalm is anchored in God's goodness, readiness to forgive, and abundant love for those who call on him.

**A Call for Undivided Devotion:** The psalm teaches us to pray for an undivided heart, to fear God's name, aiming to walk in truth rather than being influenced by fear or other idols.

**God's Character is Our Plea:** We can appeal to God's nature—being merciful, gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in love—as the reason for Him to act on our behalf.

**Worship in all Circumstances:** Even when distressed, the psalmist praises God, indicating that worship is both a duty and a source of strength.

**For Personal Crisis:** It is used as a personal plea for help when facing trials, danger, or feeling isolated.

**For finding Guidance:** This psalm serves as a guide for seeking divine direction when unsure of what to do.