



Devotional

April 12 - June 27

Day 153: June 1, 2020

Full Plan: Psalms 131:1–136:26

Abbreviated Plan: Psalms 149:1–9

Too often our praise of God is more about us than it is about God, about what God has done for us and to us. These Psalms (especially 135-146) remind us how to praise God simply for who God is: God’s power, love, greatness, and work throughout history. How will you praise God in a less egocentric way today?

What God is revealing to me today, and how I will apply it to my life:

Day 154: June 2, 2020

Full Plan: Psalms 137:1–140:13

Abbreviated Plan: Psalms 150:1–6

Psalm 137 is from the lowest point in Israelite history (exile) followed by the highest in Psalm 138 (David, Zion). Life has highs and lows, sometimes back to back but what doesn’t change is God’s faithful presence and awareness (Psalm 139). Whether you are in a “high” or “low” right now, how will you experience God’s faithfulness today?

What God is revealing to me today, and how I will apply it to my life:

Day 155: June 3, 2020

Full Plan: Psalms 141:1–144:15

Abbreviated Plan: Proverbs 1:1–19

We all have enemies. Some external, most internal. The Psalmists often pray for their enemies to be destroyed, but these readings are prayers for us to be preserved and protected against them. Our enemies won't always be defeated, but God helps us endure them. How might you pray for that kind of endurance today?

What God is revealing to me today, and how I will apply it to my life:

Day 156: June 4, 2020

Full Plan: Psalms 145:1–150:6

Abbreviated Plan: Proverbs 1:20–33

A life of praise anchored in God's grace is the only song that matters, the "cantus firmus" according to Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Everything else in your life is just harmony. How will you sing a song of praise to God in your life today?

What God is revealing to me today, and how I will apply it to my life:

Day 157: June 5, 2020

Full Plan: Proverbs 1:1–2:22

Abbreviated Plan: Proverbs 3:1–12

There is such a thin line between being God-fearing and walking the way of evil. The opening of Proverbs reminds us that it is only in seeking wisdom outside us (from God) rather than trusting in yourself alone that we can be faithful.

What God is revealing to me today, and how I will apply it to my life:

Day 158: June 6, 2020

Full Plan: Proverbs 1:1–2:22

Abbreviated Plan: Proverbs 3:13–20

It's not about you. It's not about the wisdom you gain, or the capacity you have to decide what's best. It is about trusting in God's wisdom both in the moment and in the long haul, so that your path will become straight.

What God is revealing to me today, and how I will apply it to my life:

May 31–June 6, 2020: Weekly Devotion by Jayne Cabigas

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

-Psalms 139:23-24

We long for intimacy, for someone to know us so well they can anticipate our every move and finish our sentences. And when they see our dark sides and still love us, it's even better. But in human relationships, we curate what others see. There is always something left hidden.

With the Divine Creator, everything about us is already known because we were knit together in God's image. There is no escaping God's delight in us. But as much as we want God to care for us and watch over us, do we really want God in all our thoughts and actions?

When we are at our best, we reflect the Divine into the world. We accept our role in creating the peaceable kingdom. We like ourselves and believe we are worthy of love. But too often, we like hiding in the shadows, doing what we want to do. We like being anonymous in the crowd, thinking our actions don't really matter. And would we always be proud if God knew what we were going to say before we said it? Probably not.

We all struggle with the darkness in us and around us. When darkness surrounds us, it's easy to feel alone and disconnected from God. It's hard to know which way to go, so instead of moving

forward, we sit and lament. Luckily, God has excellent night vision, and even when it's too dark for us to see, the Light is there, waiting to offer comfort and guidance - a search light for our soul - getting us back on the way everlasting.

Prayer: O Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know all my dark places, and yet you still love me. Help me to live in your love and follow your ways, because I am made in your image, fearfully and wonderfully made. Amen.

WEEK NINE (JUNE 7–13)

Day 159: June 7, 2020

Full Plan: Proverbs 4:1–5:23

Abbreviated Plan: Proverbs 3:21–35

There is no quicker way to “utter ruin” than our unwillingness to hear hard truths about ourselves, and a refusal to be corrected. Openness to critique is a discipline that draws the line between wisdom and wickedness. (Prov. 5:11-14) How might you be more open to helpful critique?

What God is revealing to me today, and how I will apply it to my life: