

Sermon-Based Questions
July 21, 2019
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Look Up: The Book of Psalms
Royalty- Psalm 72

Introduction (choose 1):

1. What are qualities that are important to you in a leader?
2. Do you think that we all have a deep longing for a leader who is strong, and good, and truly worth following? Discuss.

Understanding (choose 4-6):

1. David prays that Solomon will lead with *justice*. Discuss this quality and why it is important to have in a leader.
2. *Read Hebrews 12:13*. What types of people is God most concerned with when it comes to justice?
3. David prays that Solomon will lead with *flourishing*. Discuss this quality and why it is important to have in a leader.
4. Pastor Dave talked about leaders who are like a refreshing rain. What did he mean by this?
5. David prays that Solomon will lead with *dominion*. Discuss this quality and why it is important to have in a leader.
6. *Read Psalm 72:10-11*. What is David's prayer for Solomon in these verses?
7. How is Psalm 72 a reminder of the longing for Jesus that God has placed on our hearts?

Application:

8. Has a leader in your life disappointed you? How has that situation affected you? Take time to pray for comfort and wisdom in that area and also to know the leader that will never disappoint- Jesus.
9. Take time to pray for the leaders in our lives. Pray for our church leaders, leaders in our towns or places of work, and also for the leaders of our country. Pray that they may show the qualities of leadership we learned about from Psalm 72.

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Lectio Divina

1. **Opening Prayer:** Ask God for insight into His Word, for open hearts and minds, for hunger to know Him better, and for an attitude of learning from one another.
2. **Reading:** Have someone from your group read the passage aloud. It is best to print out a copy for each group member so they can read along, make notes, or go back as needed.
3. **Meditation:** Spend an *entire minute in complete silence*, contemplating what was just read. Feel free to re-read the passage quietly to yourself or jot down thoughts/highlight what stuck out to you.
4. **Sharing:** At the leader's signal, invite group members to share their insights for about 5 minutes.
5. **Repeat:** After the 5 minutes are over, repeat the process 2 more times using the same passage. Listen/read like you haven't heard this passage before. If there are longer moments of silence, the leader can prompt discussion with the following questions:
 1. What did you hear and what seems important?
 2. What is the Holy Spirit impressing on you?
 3. What does it make you think of from your life?

¹ *Endow the king with your justice, O God,
the royal son with your righteousness.*

² *May he judge your people in righteousness,
your afflicted ones with justice.*

³ *May the mountains bring prosperity to the people,
the hills the fruit of righteousness.*

⁴ *May he defend the afflicted among the people
and save the children of the needy;
may he crush the oppressor.*

⁵ *May he endure as long as the sun,
as long as the moon, through all generations.*

⁶ *May he be like rain falling on a mown field,
like showers watering the earth.*

⁷ *In his days may the righteous flourish
and prosperity abound till the moon is no more.*

-Psalm 72:1-7

⁸ *May he rule from sea to sea
and from the River to the ends of the earth.*

⁹ *May the desert tribes bow before him
and his enemies lick the dust.*

¹⁰ *May the kings of Tarshish and of distant shores
bring tribute to him.*

*May the kings of Sheba and Seba
present him gifts.*

*¹¹ May all kings bow down to him
and all nations serve him.*

*¹² For he will deliver the needy who cry out,
the afflicted who have no one to help.*

*¹³ He will take pity on the weak and the needy
and save the needy from death.*

*¹⁴ He will rescue them from oppression and violence,
for precious is their blood in his sight.*

-Psalm 72:8-14

*¹⁵ Long may he live!
May gold from Sheba be given him.*

*May people ever pray for him
and bless him all day long.*

*¹⁶ May grain abound throughout the land;
on the tops of the hills may it sway.*

*May the crops flourish like Lebanon
and thrive like the grass of the field.*

*¹⁷ May his name endure forever;
may it continue as long as the sun.*

*Then all nations will be blessed through him,
and they will call him blessed.*

*¹⁸ Praise be to the LORD God, the God of Israel,
who alone does marvelous deeds.*

*¹⁹ Praise be to his glorious name forever;
may the whole earth be filled with his glory.*

Amen and Amen.

²⁰ This concludes the prayers of David son of Jesse.

-Psalm 72:15-20