

"I Will Press Into GOD For Strength To Cope"

Psalm 63: 1~8 NIV

Scripture

O GOD, you are my God,
earnestly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you, my body longs for you,
in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power
and your glory.
Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you.
I will praise you as long as I live,
and in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul will be satisfied as with the richest of foods;
with singing lips my mouth will praise you.
On my bed I remember you;
I think of you through the watches of the night.
Because you are my help, I sing in the shadow of your wings.
I stay close to you; your right hand upholds me.

Prayer

Gracious Heavenly Father,

We Praise Your Holy Name, And Are In Daily Awe Of Your
Unlimited Authority,
Influence And Power. Thank You for the Presence of Your Holy
Spirit that we can
"Press Into" for encouragement, strength and renewed inner
change as we cope with
disappointment, hurt, isolation and emptiness. Instill into our
hearts and minds that You
Alone Lord, are the Only One who can quench our thirst and
satisfy our hunger for Your
Saving Grace as we live through these tough times. Always
remind us to Keep Seeking
Your Face and To Long For More Of You. All we have to carry us
forward on our journey
is Your Grace and the Love of Jesus Christ Your Son.

We Ask This Request In Jesus Name.

AMEN.

Devotion

King David is being hunted like a criminal by Saul and is desperately seeking a way out of a very dry desolate wilderness. He is without water, which prompts David to consider his thirst, that of his soul. What he truly thirsts for is not water but GOD. This thirst had been satisfied when he was able to gaze on the Glory of GOD in His sanctuary, the tabernacle. But in the wilderness, David longs for GOD's Glory. We know exactly how David is feeling, we are going through a very tough spiritual season; we are angry, frustrated, tired and at our wits-end trying to deal with 8 to 10 various issues on a daily basis!

David is desperate, but instead of blaming GOD or shaking his fist at GOD, David "presses into GOD" and finds strength for his soul to carry on until break-through and deliverance comes. Psalm 63 is a sacred song of true heart and soul felt appreciation for GOD. Even in the wilderness, David finds satisfaction, joy and comfort in praising GOD. Better than life itself is the faithful love that GOD demonstrates toward people who love him. GOD's faithfulness is more important than life-sustaining necessities. As David lay awake at night he disciplines himself to meditate on GOD. "GOD's right hand" is a metaphor for His sovereign power which supports and guides David. When we drag through tough times of suffering do we meditate on GOD? Who do you turn to for help? Have we been pressing into GOD these past eleven months? Do we hunger and thirst for more of GOD in surrendering and submitting to His Will? We have probably tried other means to fulfill our inner emptiness and hopelessness. I implore you to come back to the One who has everything you need to get through this tough time~~ GOD!!! David clung to the only solution that would get him through his wilderness days, he made it quite clear that the answer to thirsty, dry and troubled lives is GOD and GOD Alone! This is what we need to do:

- * Crave and hunger for more of GOD, Meditate upon Scripture
(Be open and honest in your search of GOD, He is with you even when life gets tough)
- * Thirst for GOD (Drink from the unending fountain of who He is, He is all you need)
- * Press into GOD's Holy Spirit Sanctuary (Seek more of GOD's Holy Spirit power for guidance, to show love unconditionally and to confidently proclaim the Good News)
- * Praise and Worship GOD (This action will come second nature because "Thanksgiving" creates the atmosphere for Him to work in)
- * Lift your hands to GOD and reach out for Him (This stance shows your desperate reliance upon GOD)
- * Think and reflect upon GOD (When we know His nature we can trust Him, so meditate on His qualities; you'll feel confident letting go and letting GOD create change in you)
- * Passionately pursue and cling to GOD (Continue to seek Him first and His Kingdom; and then all these other things will be added to you. Matthew 6:33 ~~ Hold onto GOD with all of your heart, mind, soul and strength)

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