Marks Daily Prayer • Weekly Worship • Bible Reading Giving Time, Talents & Resources • Spiritual Friendships • Service In & Beyond the Church June 6, 2021

Day 1: Psalm 47:1-2

Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy. 2 For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.

When the procession would come into the Temple this is one of the psalms that was sung. The people in the procession would clap, shout and sometimes dance as they walked. As God is king over all the earth, "all peoples" are asked to come and join in the celebration. The invitation is given to all people to come and join in the procession that is leading to God. One way to imagine our being a follower of Jesus is to think of our living as a procession that is inviting all people to join with us as with head to the Kingdom of God and to worship our King

Question: Have you ever been in a procession and how did you like it?

Challenge: Think about verse 2 - would the concept of God work if it was changed to

"a great President" over all the earth? Why or why not?

Scripture: Psalm 147

Day 2: Psalm 47:3-4

He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet. He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves.

The "pride of Jacob" refers to the land and all its wealth. Our heritage is all the work that was done before we came along. The people in worship are giving thanks for God's goodness in the past. God had provided a way for the people to live an abundant life. God provided the land, water, ability and strength to work the land. As it was true for the psalmist it is true today - God has provided for us all we need to live.

Question: What qualities or values did your parents give you? **Challenge:** What qualities or values did your grandparents give you?

Scripture: Psalm 41

Day 3: Psalm 47:5

God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

The idea of the procession is that as God moves through the land and the people, His moving among the people blesses them. When God ascends to the throne (seat of power) then all the blessings become real. When God ascends to the throne of our hearts we then have the power to bless the land and the people. What can cause people to not accept the blessing of God's love is that they may not see us bow before God in worship. When we decide that other things are more important than worship it causes doubt in others as to how serious we are in worshiping God.

Question: Who do you know that can make an impact by just walking into a room?

Challenge: Who have you blessed this week?

Scripture: Psalm 145

Day 4: Psalm 47:6-7

Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises. For God is the king of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm.

Worship is important not only for ourselves but as visible proof that we believe. This proof causes others to believe. Worship is not just in the church building but in our everyday lives. To worship God is to declare God is king. We do that by declaring that God rules our lives. We do this declaration in public.

Question: How often do you worship with others?

Challenge: What five hymns or songs do you want sung at you memorial service?

Scripture: Psalm 146

Day 5: Psalm 47:8

God is king over the nations; God sits on his holy throne.

We believe that God does rule over all the earth. God rules in a way different than kings of the nations. God invites us to new life and tells us that if we accept Christ as Lord (allow God to rule our life) we will find real freedom, not slavery.

Question: Can you name three current kings?

Challenge: How do you see God ruling over the earth? Or does this concept hold

little meaning for you? **Scripture:** Psalm 48

Day 6: Psalm 47:9

The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham. For the shields of the earth belong to God; he is highly exalted.

The promise of Abraham was that his descendants would become a great nation and be a blessing to the families of the earth (Genesis12:1-3). In this psalm the descendants of Abraham include all the people of the earth. The church today, unlike the Temple of old, is open to anyone who cares to come and worship. However, to be truly inviting we cannot simple wait for people to come to us. To be really inviting is to go to where people are and invite them in person. Just putting up a sign or handing out flyers is not the way Jesus invited. He went to where the people were and talked directly to them.

Question: Think of three friends - what is the best promise you could make to each one?

Challenge: Trace you family tree back as far as you can. Now, what did you inherit

from your family (other than some money or land)?

Scripture: Psalm 46