

Week 7 Scripture

Psalm 86 A Psalm of David (The Message)

Bend an ear, God; answer me. I'm one miserable wretch! Keep me safe—haven't I lived a good life? Help your servant — I'm depending on you! You're my God; have mercy on me. I count on you from morning to night. Give your servant a happy life; I put myself in your hands!

You're well-known as good and forgiving, bighearted to all who ask for help. Pay attention, God, to my prayer; bend down and listen to my cry for help. Every time I'm in trouble I call on you, confident that you'll answer.

There's no one quite like you among the gods, O Lord, and nothing to compare with your works. All the nations you made are on their way, ready to give honor to you, O Lord, Ready to put your beauty on display, parading your greatness, and the great things you do — God, you're the one, there's no one but you!

Train me, God, to walk straight; then I'll follow your true path. Put me together, one heart and mind; then, undivided, I'll worship in joyful fear. From the bottom of my heart I thank you, dear Lord; I've never kept secret what you're up to. You've always been great toward me — what love! You snatched me from the brink of disaster! God, these bullies have reared their heads! A gang of thugs is after me — and they don't care a thing about you.

But you, O God, are both tender and kind, not easily angered, immense in love, and you never, never quit. So look me in the eye and show kindness, give your servant the strength to go on, save your dear, dear child! Make a show of how much you love me so the bullies who hate me will stand there slack-jawed, As you, God, gently and powerfully put me back on my feet.



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Week 7: Interactive Prayer Activity

Read Psalm 86. David writes some pretty amazing things about God in this psalm! What are some things David says about God? Which is your favorite? David writes, "There's no one quite like you among the gods, O Lord, and nothing to compare with your works."

Supplies:
Easter Eggs Papers
Twine
Colored Pencils
Scissors

Remember that David lived many years before Jesus was born. What do you think David might have written if he had known God's plan - that God would become human, live among God's people, die on a cross as a criminal and then 3 days later rise from the dead? There is definitely no one quite like our God and that is what we celebrate on Easter! David ends this psalm by asking God to make a show of how much God loves him. God has certainly answered David's prayer through the resurrection of Jesus! What an amazing show of God's for us!

Do: Cut out the paper Easter eggs. Brainstorm ways that God has "made a show" of how much God loves you. On the back of each paper eggs with "Jesus is risen from the dead" on it, write one way God has shown his love for you. Next, brainstorm some ways that you could "make a show" of how much you love God. Jesus told us how to do this in John 14:15, "If you love me, show it by doing what I've told you." Write an idea on the back of each of the paper eggs with a designs on them. Color your eggs and then use the twine to turn your eggs into an Easter banner. Hang the banner somewhere that everyone can see it.



Historically, Christians have celebrated Easter not just on one Sunday morning but for an entire season called Eastertide. Eastertide begins on Easter Sunday and lasts until Pentecost - 50 days! Consider leaving your Easter banner up during Eastertide as a reminder that we serve a God who raises the dead! You can even add more eggs (there are blank eggs in your box) to your banner throughout Eastertide. Continue to give God thanks for the amazing show of love God gave us when we think about Jesus coming, living, dying and rising from the dead. You can also continue to ponder ways that you can make a show of your love for God!

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