

Lesson 8  
Psalm 81

1. Read all of Psalm 81. The title of this Psalm is, “Oh, That My People Would Listen to Me,” and this phrase is repeated several times throughout this short Psalm.

a. Meditating on this phrase, what emotions and thoughts does this stir in you?

b. What do you think this phrase reveals about the heart of God and His posture toward you?

2. In verses 6-7, God reminds His people of specific ways He showed His faithfulness and lists specific actions He did on behalf of His people.

a. Which one encourages your heart most in the season you’re currently in and why?

b. What do these actions reveal about the heart of God and His posture toward you?

3. In verses 8-10, we see God pleading with His people to listen to His voice, reaffirming that He is their faithful God and calling on them to forsake idols. What promise does God make to them at the end of verse 10? What idols in your life do you turn to for fulfillment, rather than God?

4. After calling His people to listen to Him, God beckons His people to not just listen but also to come to Him in verse 10: "Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it."

a. Read Isaiah 55:1-3. What language similarities do you notice between Psalm 81:10 and Isaiah 55:1-3?

b. Has there been a time and/or season in your life where you felt that you came to God in prayer, but God did not "fill" your desire or request in the way you had hoped?

c. What does Isaiah 55:1-3 reveal about the heart of God and His posture toward you?

5. Re-read Psalm 81:11-13. What does God allow when His people refuse to listen to His voice? Have you ever experienced this in your own life?

6. Re-read Psalm 81:16. What does this ending message of hope reveal about the heart of God and His posture toward you?