

Prayer and begging...seriously??

One of the most compelling aspects of the writers of the Psalms is their raw approach to life's most difficult issues. We're not sure who wrote Psalm 116 but whoever it was he sounds pretty grateful to be alive. Some think the writer may have been Jonah. You know, the guy swallowed by the big fish in the Old Testament. There are similarities between the style of writing in Psalm 116 and Jonah's writings. Psalm 116 verse one starts off with, "I love the LORD because He hears my voice and my supplications..." Since we rarely use the word "supplications" these days I've provided a definition of the word: "The action of asking or begging for something earnestly or humbly." The Psalmist goes on to write in verse 2, "Because He has inclined His ear to me, Therefore I shall call upon Him as long as I live." Americans are an interesting lot. Our tendency is to make our own way and beg or bow to no one. Unfortunately, that lifestyle has permeated American Christians as well. But, there does seem to be a direct connection in Psalm 116:1-2 between a genuine asking GOD for something while showing an outward, earnest, and humble expression and GOD "listening" to our request. One of the faith hallmarks of Korean Christians is their love and adherence to daily prayer. It's not unusual for our Korean brothers and sisters to gather together early in the morning while it's still dark to pray. It's not prayer and fellowship. It's not prayer and Bible study or even prayer and breakfast. It's serious, earnest, humble focused prayer. "He hears my supplications...and inclines His ear to me." Maybe our Korean brothers and sisters have figured it out while we American Christians are still wandering and trying to make our own way?

Pr. Wayne

Prayers

Youth Tour to Sedona, Arizona, March 22-26 Directions with new COVID regulations