

“STEADFAST LOVE”

Psalm 86:1–17

Key Verse: 86:13a

1. Read verses 1–7. In what ways does David describe his situation here? In what ways does he describe God? How does he identify himself? What verbs does he use to ask of God? What shows his urgency? What can we learn from verses 4–5?
2. Read verses 8–13. What does David say here about God’s “name” and his uniqueness? What does it mean to “glorify” God’s name? What vision does he have, and why (9–10)? In light of this, what does he ask (11)? Why is it important to “walk in your truth” (Ps.15:2; 3 John 1:3–4)? Why should we also pray “unite my heart” (1 Tim.1:5; 2 Tim.2:22)?
3. For what is David thankful (12–13; 5,15)? To whom does God show his “steadfast love” (Ex.20:6)? How did he express this love toward Israel (Jer.31:2–3)? How does he show us this love in Jesus (Rom.5:8; 1 John 4:10)? How does his great, steadfast love help us to change?
4. Read verses 14–17. How does David again describe his situation? What does “they do not set you before them” mean (14b)? What verbs does he use here to ask of God? What is his hope (17b)?
5. In the three sections of this Psalm (1–7, 8–13, and 14–17), what stages of prayer can we find, and what can we learn from this?