

BIBLEWAY WORKSHEET - PSALMS

1. Hymns of Praise

Psalms that celebrate who God is — his character, greatness, and works — simply because he is worthy.

Psalm 145:8–9

David's own psalm of praise — the last one attributed to him in the Psalter, an acrostic moving through the alphabet to catalog who God is.

ESV

“The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.”

This is pure character description — grace, mercy, patience, steadfast love, goodness — with zero turn toward the worshiper's own experience.

HOW WOULD YOU PRAISE GOD IN YOUR OWN WORDS?

A poetic line. A statement. One word. Whatever comes.

2. Psalms of Trust / Confidence

Psalms that express calm reliance on God's care and protection, even amid difficulty.

Psalm 62:8

David, likely composed while surrounded by men plotting to bring him down — trust here isn't naive, it's chosen in the middle of real threat.

ESV

“Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.”

HOW WOULD YOU SAY IT IN YOUR OWN WORDS?

A poetic line. A statement. One word. Whatever comes.

3. Imprecatory

The psalmist's honest naming of pain or injustice before God.

Psalm 13:1–2

David, likely written during a long stretch of unanswered prayer and pursuit by an enemy — tradition often connects it to his years fleeing Saul.

ESV

“How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?”

HOW WOULD YOU CRY FOR HELP IN YOUR OWN WORDS?

A poetic line. A statement. One word. Whatever comes.

BIBLEWAY WORKSHEET - PSALMS

4. Penitential

Psalms of confession and contrition, where the psalmist acknowledges personal sin and asks God for forgiveness and inner renewal.

Psalm 51:10

David, written after the prophet Nathan confronted him over his affair with Bathsheba and the death of her husband, Uriah.

ESV

“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.”

HOW WOULD YOU CONFESS IN YOUR OWN WORDS?

A poetic line. A statement. One word. Whatever comes.

5. Thanksgiving

Psalms that look back on a specific deliverance already received and give God credit for it — gratitude rooted in something God has already done.

Psalm 30:11–12

David, titled “a song at the dedication of the temple” — traditionally understood as thanksgiving after recovering from a near-fatal crisis.

ESV

“You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; you have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness.”

HOW WOULD YOU SAY IT IN YOUR OWN WORDS?

A poetic line. A statement. One word. Whatever comes.

FOR DEVOTIONAL READING

Hymns of Praise

Psalm 8 · Psalm 19 · Psalm 29 · Psalm 33 · Psalm 96 · Psalm 100 · Psalm 103 · Psalm 145 · Psalm 148 · Psalm 150

Psalms of Trust / Confidence

Psalm 11 · Psalm 16 · Psalm 23 · Psalm 27 · Psalm 62 · Psalm 63 · Psalm 91 · Psalm 121 · Psalm 125 · Psalm 131

Imprecatory

Psalm 5 · Psalm 10 · Psalm 17 · Psalm 35 · Psalm 58 · Psalm 59 · Psalm 69 · Psalm 79 · Psalm 109 · Psalm 137

Penitential

Psalm 6 · Psalm 25 · Psalm 32 · Psalm 38 · Psalm 40 · Psalm 41 · Psalm 51 · Psalm 102 · Psalm 130 · Psalm 143

Thanksgiving

Psalm 18 · Psalm 30 · Psalm 34 · Psalm 52 · Psalm 66 · Psalm 92 · Psalm 107 · Psalm 116 · Psalm 118 · Psalm 136