

*Monday, 14 March 2011*

*Psalm 63:3-5*

*Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you. I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul will be satisfied as with the richest of foods; with singing lips my mouth will praise you.*

Again, praise You for bringing Jim and Ellie to us last night, for the wisdom and discernment that You provided through them. Thank You for the time with Chip and for the evidence of a transformed life that we saw. Continue to work in his soul, Lord, and in Raye's. I do pray for his provision and for the resolution of his legal problems.

Lord, these tests and trials, these transformed lives, these dear friends are the richest of blessings that You provide; help me to see Your hand always in all things.

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*Tuesday, 15 March 2011*

*Psalm 63:6-8*

*On my bed I remember you; I think of you through the watches of the night. Because you are my help, I sing in the shadow of your wings. My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.*

I know, Lord, that You are always with me, but often I am not with You. How I've grumbled about kids who don't listen to what I'm saying and interrupt, changing the conversation, ignoring what I have to say to them; and yet, here I am, acting like a self-centered child, petulantly jabbering about my petty concerns, not listening to Your gentle voice leading me in the path of righteousness. Forgive me, Lord, forgive me and transform me.

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*Wednesday, 16 March 2011*

*Psalm 63:9-11*

*They who seek my life will be destroyed; they will go down to the depths of the earth. (10) They will be given over to the sword and become food for jackals. (11) But the king will rejoice in God; all who swear by God's name will praise him, while the mouths of liars will be silenced.*

Lord, I need to learn to trust You, I say I know that You are faithful, but I frequently do not act that way and therefore my protestations of belief are wrong and lies. Teach me, transform me into a man of faith, demonstrating that faith to all by all that I do and live. Teach me, transform me into one whose praises are ever on his lips. Teach me, transform me into one who rejoices in You and Your presence always.

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*Thursday, 17 March 2011*

*Psalm 64:1-4*

*To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David. Hear my voice, O God, in my complaint; preserve my life from dread of the enemy. (2) Hide me from the secret plots of the wicked, from the throng of evildoers, (3) who whet their tongues like swords, who aim bitter words like arrows, (4) shooting from ambush at the blameless, shooting at him suddenly and without fear.*

Lord, my enemies are the sinful affections of my heart, lust, greed, pride, envy, avarice, conceit, self-centered, and more. The list goes on of those things that the Evil One uses to gain a toehold in my heart and dissuade me from honoring You with all my heart, soul, mind, strength and loving my neighbor as myself. They can only be held at bay through the transforming power of Your love for me. Praise You, Lord.

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*Friday, 18 March 2011*

*Psalm 64:5-9*

*They hold fast to their evil purpose; they talk of laying snares secretly, thinking, "Who can see them?" (6) They search out injustice, saying, "We have accomplished a diligent search." For the inward mind and heart of a man are deep! (7) But God shoots his arrow at them; they are wounded suddenly. (8) They are brought to ruin, with their own tongues turned against them; all who see them will wag their heads. (9) Then all mankind fears; they tell what God has brought about and ponder what he has done.*

Lord, I need to learn to take advantage of Your early warning system; I need to learn to listen to that quiet, small

voice of the Holy Spirit warning me that I am allowing the Evil One to have a toe hold in my soul. It is far too easy for me to fool myself into believing that I have been diligent in resisting the Evil One but he knows the failings of my diligence. Teach me to resist, to be unswerving in my proclamation of Your goodness, to stand and not collapse as a man of God, to acknowledge You in all my ways and to seek first Your righteousness and Your Kingdom.

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*Saturday, 19 March 2011*

*Psalm 64:10*

*Let the righteous one rejoice in the LORD and take refuge in him!  
Let all the upright in heart exult!*

Through all this turmoil and testing, You have never failed in the slightest. You have always been at my side, always comforting and guiding -- all I have needed to do was listen and obey. You are the Almighty, yet You are the Provider and the One who loves. My Lord and my Brother.

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*Lord's Day, 20 March 2011*

*Psalm 119:108*

*Accept my freewill offerings of praise, O LORD, and teach me your rules.*

Freewill offerings of praise have to be freely given. That means not looking over my shoulder to see what someone else thinks, not doing it for my glory, not doing what is the legalistic thing, but serving you in humility and contrition.

## **VOICES TOGETHER**

*Daily Meditations from the Psalms*

*March 14 – 20, 2011*

Voices Together is extracted from my daily meditations and is shared in the hopes that others will be encouraged to turn to the Psalms as a rich source of guidance for prayer and meditation.

John Nunnikhoven