

# PSALM 85

September 4, 2016

Psalm 85 is a communal lament and would've been sung by people seeking God's forgiveness for their community. The psalm remembers God's faithfulness in the past (verses 1-3), seeks his forgiveness now (verses 4-7), prepares to wait for his response (verses 8-9), and promises that the Lord will continue to be faithful (verses 10-13). It also informs the way we pray when God feels distant or angry towards us.

However, we can now read this psalm with the promise of the gospel. God has been faithful to us in sending Jesus, he forgives us through the work of Jesus, he responds to our needs through the Holy Spirit, and he will ultimately redeem all things to himself in Christ.

## Understanding

- **Read Psalm 85**
- **What's the tone of this psalm?**
- **What's this psalm's purpose?**

## Evaluating

- **Look at verses 1-3. What are some ways God has been gracious to you in the past?**
- **Look at verse 8. In what areas of your life are you waiting for the Lord to speak?**

## Applying

- **What promises does this psalm make?**
- **How does the gospel inform the way we read this psalm?**
- **How does this psalm inform the way we pray?**



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