NOTES



Spiritual Practice - A Sacrifice of Praise

4th Sunday of Lent -

OT Lesson - 2 Chronicles 36: 14-23

Psalm - Psalm 122

NT Lesson - Ephesians 2: 1-10

Gospel - John 6: 1-15

Longing For God

How can we explain the difference between worship in which "something happens" within us and worship in which this "something" doesn't happen?

The "something" that happens is our response to God in some way -- awe, joy, speaking back to God. Worship is about responding to God more than anything else. As we make it a habit to respond to God every time we worship, a longing for God permeates our lives. If you've sensed that longing, even for a moment, you know what follows: a sense that God will never leave you, a deep confidence that God meets your needs, an alert expectancy that God will "show up" in your life and speak to you.

This anticipation changes all our worship experiences. Distractions -- a baby crying, a person sniffling, the sun's glare through a stained-glass window don't matter anymore. Even an ordinary sunset becomes an occasion of personal worship. An in our worst moments, we still want to rise up and worship.

- Read Psalm 61 or 62 in the next few days, asking yourself these two questions: What picture of God is presented here? How should I respond to God?
- While lying in bed (before falling asleep, after waking up or during sleeplessness), whisper aloud, "I remember you, O God" (Psalm 63:6)

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