

Morning,

We already miss having ya'll at Snowbird! I hope you have been able to go home and start working through some of your notes from the women's retreat! Some of you have! I have received a few texts of further study as you got home and began to work through the things we threw at you.

I hope you have seen the resounding theme in your notes!

The Lord wanted you to hear. In 4 different ways that he wants you to:

1. Come boldly to the throne
2. Acknowledge who He is – His sovereignty (meaning his plan in all the plans)
3. Remember what He's done for you
4. By diving into his word and longing to be in his presence
5. Sing
6. Do something for others (serving others can help us put our stuff in perspective)

This morning I have been reading Numbers 27 because a dear friend sent me a text about it. She said she was following the Korah trail and it took her to Numbers 27. She has been a missionary in a Muslim country and in numbers 27 these daughters had lost their family as the Israelites walked through the wilderness. It says in Numbers 27:3 "Our father died in the wilderness. He was not among the company of Korah, but died for his own sin. And he had no sons. Why should the name of our father be taken away from his clan because he had no son? Give to us possession among our father's brothers.

If you keep reading you will see that God honored their request! This is crazy – especially to my friend who has lived in this culture. To see God extending property, rights and namesake to these girls – in a place where they are devalued and unable to even be acknowledged is astounding!

But our God is not limited to our cultural norms. He doesn't care about how we have always done something. And He most certainly does not disregard one person over another. This is huge for missionaries on the field and it is just as significant for us.

Our God cares about us.

Read this: **Psalms 84 – another one by our boys – says this:**

**To the choirmaster: according to The Gittith.<sup>[a]</sup> A Psalm of the Sons of Korah.**

**84** How lovely is your dwelling place,

O LORD of hosts! <sup>2</sup> My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God. <sup>3</sup> Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God. <sup>4</sup> Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever **singing your praise!** *Selah* <sup>5</sup> Blessed are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>6</sup> As they go through the Valley of Baca they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools. <sup>7</sup> They go from strength to strength; each one appears before God in Zion. <sup>8</sup> O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer give ear, O God of Jacob! *Selah* <sup>9</sup> **Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed!** <sup>10</sup> **For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.** <sup>11</sup> For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor. No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly. <sup>12</sup> O LORD of hosts, blessed is the one who trusts in you!

Do you see it?! There is so much in this! If you left the weekend and went home and became without hope- take hope!

For here we see that – even if you are walking through the Valley you can make it so beautiful that it will be a place of growth and beauty out of the ashes! So walk well through that trial!

Go from strength to strength! This verse even has the how attached! They appear before God!

Don't go about your week forgetting where your strength comes from! Appear before God and then you will have the strength you need.

Lastly, look at this little Easter egg we get: For better is one day in your courts than thousands elsewhere! He says — I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tent of wickedness!

We know exactly what that means! The beautiful worship song that has been created from those words, now we can hear with different ears! Be content in our positions. Be excited to get busy before the Lord — for better is one day working as a gate keeper than the alternative!

I don't know about ya'll, but that gets me excited!

Keep digging. Keep studying. Keep remembering. And, God will stand by His Word to make all things new! That may look different in the end than we have eyes on right now, but we can trust our God! He is mighty to save!

Have a great week,

*Bethany*