

## **Give Me an Undivided Heart**

Hope Chapel Honolulu

Psalm 86:1-17

Teach me your way, Lord, that I may rely on Your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear Your name. I will praise you, O Lord my God, with all my heart; I will glorify your name forever.

(Psalm 86: 11-12 NIV)

### **Introduction:**

When David wrote his prayer to God in Psalm 86, he used different Hebrew words to address Him: *Yahweh* ("I Am"); *Eloah* (God); *Elohim* (plural for God); and *Adonai* ("master" or "ruler"). Why would he do this? By interchanging God's name to align with his praise to Him as well as his dire needs, David seems to remind himself of who God is as well as His love and care for those who follow Him. Known as a man after God's own heart (1 Samuel 13:14; Acts 13:22), David continues to draw close to Him, relies on His faithfulness, and asks for an undivided heart to revere Him despite the distress from being in an unknown, life-threatening situation.

- 1. When we cry out to God in our humility, He hears us. (v. 1-7)**
  - a. Knowing God's character gives us reasons that He will answer us.
  - b. We need to trust Him to guard our lives in times of trouble.
- 2. When we are committed to learn from Him, we can ask Him to teach us. (v. 8-13)**
  - a. Our whole being depends on God.
  - b. God wants wholehearted devotion to Him.
- 3. When we are attacked, we depend on God to comfort us and help us. (v. 14-17)**
  - a. We appeal to God and rest in His truth.
  - b. God can and will vindicate us if we wait for His response.

### **Conclusion:**

At the end of David's reign as king (1 Chronicles 29), we see his prayerful desire for his son Solomon and those he reigned over, to live a life of wholehearted devotion, keeping their hearts loyal to the LORD. How can we have an undivided heart towards God? We can begin by asking Him to teach us how to rely on His faithfulness and to give us and show us how to have a wholehearted devotion to Him.

### **For our prayerful study, discussion, and application:**

1. Read Psalm 86:1-17 together. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through this passage?
2. Recall a time when your heart was divided towards God. How did you move towards wholehearted devotion to Him?
3. Pray for one another's needs.

**011424 LG**