

## A PRAYER FOR WHEN YOU ARE DESPERATE

### Psalm 86

#### I. Cries to God from deep waters: v1-7

Basis of his plea: not what I deserve, but only \_\_\_\_\_:

1: poor & needy

3: mercy—call to You ALL day long  
15 min increments!

5: You are forgiving and good

6: my cry for mercy

(things change in this psalm, but not the plea: v16 still the same)

4: I long to smile again; You are my only Source of **joy**

#### II. Eyes off \_\_\_\_\_ to see \_\_\_\_\_ anew: v8-10

Finally tired of simply crying out. Stop and think about Who you are crying to. God-centered

8: You are unique

Exodus

Cross and empty tomb

9: It is not about me!

10: You alone are God. I am transfixed by the wonder of You

#### III. A \_\_\_\_\_ prayer: v11-13

New focus:

11: enable me to live in this situation in a way that pleases You  
Give me an undivided heart—I am so divided most of the time  
I Peter 1:6-7

**4:1** drawing close to Jesus is so important that temptations lose their power

12: so my passion is Your glory forever! Because

13: You *have* already delivered me from death. How will You not freely give me whatever I need for my good?!  
I can trust You

IV. The problems don't disappear, but I have \_\_\_\_\_ : v14-17

14: first time he states the problem. Extreme? Millions of Christians have had the same situation. Put your problems in perspective.

15: Back to God—what He is like toward **me**

16: Final prayer: again for **mercy**. Always the only plea.

Notice the two "YOUR"s

a) Grant YOUR unique strength (Who made the nations—v9)

b) I am YOUR servant (and son?)—unique relationship

17: Bold: give me a **sign** of Your goodness in this situation, so

a) I see it and gain hope

b) my enemies will see it and be put to shame. Objective. To glorify You.

Enter into this prayer—possess it—for your life.