

1. Your prayer of thanks flows from your **COVENANT RELATIONSHIP** with God, vv. 12-13 (*cf. vv. 1-7, 15-17; Exodus 34:6; Deuteronomy 7:9; Daniel 7:9*).
2. Your prayer of thanks is as **DISCIPLINED RESULT** of an undivided heart, v. 12 (*cf. v. 2, 11; 1 Samuel 12:24; Psalm 143:8; Proverbs 3:5; 1 Kings 8:23; Jeremiah 32:38-40; Mark 12:30; Philippians 4:6; Hebrews 10:22-23; James 1:8*).
3. Your prayer of thanks comes as a **WORSHIPFUL RESPONSE** to the exclusive greatness of God, v. 12 (*cf. vv. 8-10; Exodus 15:11; 2 Samuel 7:21-22; Isaiah 37:16; 1 Thessalonians 5:18; Revelation 15:4*).



Read Psalm 86 together as a family. Why does David give thanks to God in v. 12 (some translations say “praise”)? Make a list of the ways God has shown His

steadfast love and grace to you and your family. Spend some time in prayer offering praises and thanks to God for the things on your list.

For Further Study, Thought, and Discussion:

1. We aren’t told exactly the historical context of Psalm 86, but what seems to have prompted David’s prayer (see vv. 2, 5-7, 14, 16-17)? What does his plea for grace and forgiveness imply about his part to play in his current crisis? How dire is his situation? Have you ever been in a situation like his? What was it, and where did you go for help?
2. Make a list of the requests that David makes in this Psalm. How many are there? What do they mean? Now count how many times the word “for” is used. What does “for” tell us about the reason David goes to God with his

requests? If you were to make a series of requests to God, what would your “for’s” be?

3. Why does David ask God to teach him His “way” (v. 11)? How does that happen and what is the relationship between living God’s “way” and having a united heart? What is the alternative, and what is its result? Use the cross-references in point 2 to help you.
4. David’s thanksgiving in v. 12 comes even as he endures a difficult situation. How is this an illustration of 1 Thessalonians 5:18? What is David thankful for and why? What can we thank God for, even in the midst of hard times?
5. Regardless of the struggle you are currently going through, use Philippians 4:6 as your guide and spend some time offering prayers of thanksgiving to God.

NEXT WEEK: Psalm 116, The Grateful One Called on the Name of the LORD