

The Encore (Psalm 145)

Remember live concerts? Going to hear your favorite band with hundreds, maybe even thousands of other people? At the end of the show, after the band exits the stage, everyone's hoping they come back to play one more song, the encore. Psalm 145 is the last of King David's songs and I can't think of a more appropriate way for the greatest songwriter in the Bible to end things. It's like his encore to an encore – it's that good. David invites us to join in and make it our own, to sing at the top of our lungs, *"there's no limit to God's greatness, no boundary on his love!"*

1. David's voice | it's personal (Psalm 145:1-3)

"This is what I will do!" and *"Here's the reason why!"*

Worship is *"the simultaneous expression of dependency and worth."*

V3 Great is The LORD or *Yahweh* is the covenant name of God revealed Exodus 3:14 = *"He Who Is"*

2. Our voice | it's communal (Psalm 145:4-9)

"Generations will join me in praising you!" and *"This is the reason why!"* Psalm 111:2

VV8-9 The unforgettable revelation of God at Mt Sinai to Moses. Exodus 34:6

The ocean of greatness we're staring at is just a drop - there's so much more!

3. Creation's voice | it's worldwide (Psalm 145:10-20)

"All you have made will praise you!" and *"This is why!"*

"Kingdom" is used 4xs (11, 12, 13, 13) – brings out theme of God's gracious rule.

Celebrating His Kingdom? Why? Because this is gospel. Isaiah 52:7-10 *"Your God reigns!"* This is the Good news of the Kingdom. Mark 1:15

The missionary heart of VV11-12. = God's covenant love came to Israel in a special way but was never meant to be for them *alone*.

VV14-20 Real life examples of God's gracious rule

V 21 David's resolve is clear and immovable; is yours?

QUESTIONS (Pray, read the passage and pick 4-5 questions to discuss. Trust the Holy Spirit to guide.)

1. Read Psalm 145. This song begins in an extremely personal way. What personal decision has King David (the author) made and why? What does his decision lead to?
2. The thought of "unsearchable greatness" is exciting but also intimidating. What does the thought of "unsearchable greatness" produce in you?
3. Sometimes we don't know how to respond to greatness. Read this psalm slowly. Underline everything *about* God. What's left is how to respond to what you have underlined.
4. What does it mean for *"one generation to commend your works to another"*? Practically, what does this look like in your own life? How might we grow in this area?
5. Ultimately, the mighty acts and great works of God point us to His character. What does the finished work of Jesus on the cross reveal about God's character?
6. Why do you think King David celebrated God's Kingdom the way he did in VV11-13? Describe what God's loving rule looks like and produces. Consider VV14-20
7. Talk about the "missionary heart" found in VV11-12. Why should we want to make these truths known to those around us?
8. Does God impress you? What if he doesn't? Maybe something else or someone else impresses you. If so, what might help you grow in awe of God's works and character?
9. King David invites us to sing along with him. What would it look like to take him up on his invitation? Why is it so important we take him up on that invite?