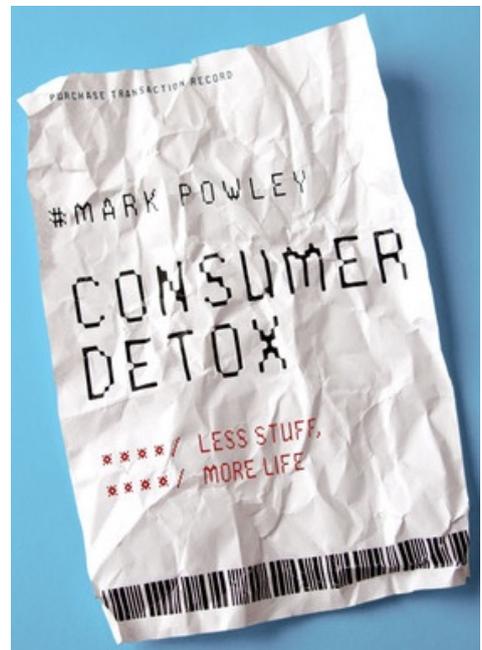


Week 3.

- Where is your favourite place?
- Read Psalm 84 - you might like to read the 'Psalms / Now' version overleaf as well.
- Why would the psalmist rather be a doorkeeper in God's house, than elsewhere?
- What was his intention?
- How might we live intentionally?
- What blessings or benefits might come to us if we pay more attention to God and our relationships?
- How might being present to God and to others be costly?
- What things in our society and culture might get in the way?
- What steps might we take to practice being present to God and to others?
- Read the list of ideas opposite and try and incorporate at least one of them into your day.
- Re-read verse 10-12 of Psalm 84 and spend some time in silence, reflecting on your value to God.



Present to God & Others

- + Concentrate on one task at a time.
- + Limit your time for a specific activity (eg checking emails).
- + Be positively present to people you meet in the street.
- + Spend some time in silence each day - look for silent interludes during the day in which to connect with God.
- + Value your spoken words and those you are speaking to.

'Presence is irreplaceable'



Psalm 84 from 'Psalms / Now'

O God, the centre of your will
is truly the place of fulfilment.
I long incessantly
for the peace and security of walking with you.
Therein only is purpose and meaning for my life.

Even the birds of the air
and the animals that inhabit our forests
abide within your orbit and destiny for them.
Thus it is that the man
who discovers and follows your course for him
is forever blessed.

How enriched they are
who draw their power from you,
whose hearts are focussed on you!
Even as they wend their way
through his fractured world,
they become springs of healing,
reservoirs of power,
to the sick, weak and empty lives
they touch about them.

O Lord, look with loving mercy upon those
who have yielded their destinies to you.
Just one day in the centre of your will
is incomparably better than a thousand
spent in the pursuit
of self centred aims and objectives.
It is more fulfilling to be an underpaid clerk
in the service of my God
than to be owner and director
of some huge and wealthy enterprise.

O God, nothing that is
truly good and worthwhile
is withheld from those who walk
within your will.
The man who trust in you is very rich indeed.