NO OTHER GODS

— 30 Days of Worship —

— Asherah / Fruitfulness / Spirit —

READ

Psalm 103

¹ Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
 and forget not all his benefits,
 who forgives all your iniquity,
 who heals all your diseases,

⁴ who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

5 who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

⁶ The Lord works righteousness and justice for all who are

oppressed.

⁷ He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel.

8 The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

9 He will not always chide,

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nor will he keep his anger forever.

10 He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our

iniquities.

¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth,

so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

12 as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

13 As a father shows compassion to his children.

so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.

¹⁴ For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

REFLECT

If you could memorize one Psalm during this 30 days of worship, this would be it. Memorization forces us to *s l o w* down and really digest

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the words of Scripture so that we have to think about each and every one of them, and in so doing, we begin to absorb truth and take it with us everywhere we go. During those times when we really feel driven to be productive, this Psalm challenges us to pause and remember what God has done. Turn your back on Asherah's call today, and surrender any desire to "produce." Trust that as you invest this time in your relationship with the Father, he will allow you to accomplish what he has on his agenda for you.

RESPOND

Quiet your spirit in the presence of the Lord. Read through this Psalm again, only this time, reword it so that you are speaking to the Lord.

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So, verse three becomes "...you forgive all my iniquity, you heal all

my diseases..."

When you get to the verses that speak of sin (missing the mark), iniquity (twisting God's standards and justifying your behavior) and transgression (willful rebellion against God), stop and list any specific sins that the Lord brings to mind. Aligning your spirit with the holiness of God through confession is part of worship. When you reach verses 11-13, take the time to behold God's love for you. It is vast, it is decisive, and it is enduring.

Quiet your finite soul in the presence of the One who formed you. He knows your frailty, yet his

love for you is unchanged.