

More Than Hearing Worksheet

Episode: AAdv3x2019

Text: Psalm 146:5-10

5 Happy are those whose **help** is the God of Jacob, whose **hope** is in the Lord their God,

6 who **made** **heaven and earth, the sea**, and all that is in them; who **keeps faith** forever;

7 who **executes** **justice** for the oppressed; who **gives food** to the **hungry**. The Lord **sets** the prisoners free;

8 the Lord **opens the eyes** of the **blind**. The Lord **lifts up** **those who are bowed down**; the Lord **loves** the righteous.

9 The Lord **watches over** the strangers; he **upholds** the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

10 The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord!

*Word - B, Eye - B, *Body - I, *Music - B, People - B, Self - S

Smarts	Images in the text/ interesting exegesis	Illustrations	SFX
Word - Verbal/Linguistic D2	<p>Jesus uses elements of this psalm to respond to John's disciples coming to ask him if he is the One who they've waited for.</p> <p>Jesus' response to John in the Matthew passage is like a parable using this text as its foundation.</p>	<p>← Borrowing a bit from MUSIC smart, this is a bit like being told a story or sung a song when you ask someone a question. It happens all the time in musicals! (ex. The townspeople in <i>Beauty and the Beast</i> who sing about what an odd duck Belle is.)</p> <p>Hebrew word translated as "happy" is also translated as blessed. It derives from אָשַׁר (<i>ashar</i>) which means "to go on straight ahead".</p>	<p>← this makes me think of a child who enters a playground or room and sees something that makes them hesitate. They turn, see their parent encouraging them on, so they turn back around and continue, full of</p>

			confidence and adventure.
Eye - Visual/Spatial		Charles Spurgeon compares the clauses from verses 5-9 to stair steps up which God leads the poor by hand.	Make the steps! Use shoe boxes or tissue boxes wrapped in paper with the words printed on them.
Math - Logical/Mathematical			
Body - Kinesthetic MWD		An essay by Amy Zietlow in <i>The Christian Century</i> comparing The Nutcracker to Advent preparations. The author uses the Magnificat as her text, but I think the protective promise of God in the psalm also works.	
Musical D2	Walter Brueggemann wrote that "Singing is our vocation, our duty, and our delight. We name this staggering name -- and the world becomes open again, especially for those on whom it had closed in such deathly ways -- the prisoners, the blind, the sojourner, the widow, the orphan. The world is sung open." James Howell , Working Preacher	↑ The above essay about the dance also has some fascinating cues in the music. I did not know Tchaikovsky's sister had died while he was composing this piece nor that some of the musical refrains in the score are reminiscent of the Russian Orthodox funeral service. Tchaikovsky took this music of grief and mourning and transformed it into a dance between two lovers; the way God transforms the suffering of the blind, those bowed down, strangers, orphans, widows into the joy of fellowship with God and others.	Play the Sugar Plum pas de deux
Natural			
People - Interpersonal	Vs. 5 - Who keeps faith forever	Commentary by Celeste Kennel-Shank , <i>The Christian Century</i> "It's no surprise that	Discuss: When have you seen your trust in others pay off?

		<p>when I put my trust in the people who work in the US government buildings nearby, it leads to despair. But that's not the whole story. I have been feeling a lack of hope because I've also been trusting myself, a human who is involved in activist efforts. I want so badly to see my efforts pay off. Instead it seems like any victories we see are only reversed later.</p> <p>This is nothing new, of course. People do better; people do worse. Sometimes the people with the most power are merciful and just, other times capricious and tyrannical."</p>	<p>When has trusting others not been so fruitful?</p> <p>How do we maintain trust in one another and in God?</p>
Self - Intrapersonal			<p>See the PEOPLE smart questions. It may even be helpful to spend some time pondering them individually before beginning the group discussion.</p>