

Marinating in God's Word: Psalm 2

The Psalms shape the language of the New Testament, our worship, and our prayers. Other than that they aren't very important – ha! We're focusing on one Psalm each week.

For further reflection on your own or in a small group, consider these questions:

- Have you ever been in a power struggle (perhaps at work, in the family, or in the church)? What happened? What power did you have, and what power was exercised upon you?
- Even in Israel's heyday during the reigns of David and Solomon, Israel was only a mid-size empire, and were frequently subjected to powerful invaders. What did that mean for their faith? How is that historical pattern reflected in this Psalm?
- Israel, unlike other nations, marked their kings by anointing with oil (see v. 2). How does the language of Psalm 2 describe the Old Testament kings? At what point does it seem to be looking for another anointed one, beyond the king of Israel?
- In the New Testament the "anointed one" is the Messiah – which is the word for "anointed one". How is Jesus like any other king? How is he different? In what ways is Jesus shown as king in the gospels? How was he a surprising king?
- If Jesus is your king, what does that mean for how you respond to those who have power over you? For how you use power yourself?

Next week we'll focus upon Psalm 8.