

Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17ⁱⁱⁱ

Bow down your ear, O LORD, and answer me, *
for I am poor and in misery.

Keep watch over my life, for I am faithful; *
save your servant who puts his trust in you.

Be merciful to me, O LORD, for you are my God; *
I call upon you all the day long.

Gladden the soul of your servant, *
for to you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

For you, O LORD, are good and forgiving, *
and great is your love toward all who call upon you.

Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer, *
and attend to the voice of my supplications.

In the time of my trouble I will call upon you, *
for you will answer me.

Among the gods there is none like you, O LORD, *
nor anything like your works.

All nations you have made will come and worship you, O LORD, *
and glorify your Name.

For you are great;
you do wondrous things; *
and you alone are God.

Turn to me and have mercy upon me; *
give your strength to your servant;
and save the child of your handmaid.

Show me a sign of your favor,
so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed; *
because you, O LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

iii About Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17

This personal lament by one of God's devoted servants call upon God's help in a time of distress. Relying on God's goodness and forgiveness (v. 5) and knowing that God is "merciful and gracious" and full of "steadfast love" (v. 15), the psalmist is confident that God will hear and answer his prayer.