

LIFE GROUP APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Psalms Series

These questions are for the **November 7, 2021**, sermon, "In Troubling Times." Please read the sermon passage (Psalm 20) together out loud.

Sermon Outline

WHEN SEEKING ANSWERS IN THE DAY OF TROUBLE, NOTE . . .

1. The model of prayer God provides for us. (1-5)
 - a. The word, "may," used 7 times in these 5 verses, is a request for the actual/tangible realization of the blessings of God.
 - i. Protection. (God of Jacob, Gen 35:3) God answers in the "day of trouble." (1)
 - ii. Help/support come from the sanctuary/Zion. Seek God's presence. (2)
 - iii. Remember our sacrifices which we bring in submission to our King. (3)
 - iv. Bring tangible success to us for the glory of your own name. (4-5)
 - b. When seeking answers from God, begin by claiming the promises of God.
 - c. NOTE: the God who protected in the past, is the same God who will protect today.
2. The emphasis upon trust God desires within us. (6-8)
 - a. The LORD saves his "anointed," (OT: Messiah, NT: Christ).
 - b. David is certain that God will honor and fulfill his promise.
 - i. One person's certainty can be a great blessing to many around him/her.
 - ii. Future success is certain because of a faithful God (not by military might).
3. The request for answers God anticipates from us. (9)
 - a. We continually go to God, awaiting his tangible response.
 - b. Continual prayer is not futile. Continual prayer is continual trust in God.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: Read through verses 1-5 and make note of the pattern of prayer. What are one or two specific requests on your heart that you are waiting on God to answer? How has the "day of trouble" matured you and affected your prayer life?
2. Based on #1, above: Prayer and promise are closely tied together. We learned that when seeking answers from God, we should begin by claiming a promise from God. What promises or promises are you claiming as you pray today?
3. Based on #2, above: Chariots and horses represent government and military strength, and they clearly cannot save. Some trust in the government, "but we trust in the name of the Lord, our God." Are you afraid of the future? How do you talk about the state of this world? What kind of trust do you think your words, emotions and attitudes convey to spouse, family and friends?
4. Based on #3, above: When God does not answer a prayer which is we believe is based upon one of his promises, we might be prone to get discouraged or give up. But perseverance in prayer is not only not futile, it is the essence of faithfulness. Discuss. Are you still awaiting a tangible response from God?