

## LIFE GROUP APPLICATION QUESTIONS

## *Psalms Series*

These questions are for the **July 24, 2022**, sermon, "The Hearing." Please read the sermon passage (Psalm 77) together out loud.

### Passage Outline

#### **WHEN SEEKING A HEARING WITH GOD IN EXTREME TIMES, NOTE...**

1. How our questions need to be addressed. (1-9)
  - a. To pray is to "Cry aloud to God" in belief that he hears, he cares, he is able.
  - b. We may need to lament very heavy and hard disappointments.
    - i. We can be honest with God and one another about our despair.
    - ii. Sometimes it is our despair which teaches us to pray and trust God.
  - c. Will the Lord spurn me forever? (7) Has he stopped loving me? (8)
2. How our redemption needs to be recalled. (10-15)
  - a. Remembering the "deeds of the Lord" has life-transforming power.
    - i. Recall the "years" of God's faithfulness to you. (10)
    - ii. Think often ("ponder"), deeply and reflectively ("meditate"). (11)
  - b. God has graciously redeemed his people.
    - i. This is an unmerited rescue, especially in Jesus.
    - ii. The result is eternal life, with him forever. (Eph 1:7, 1 Peter 1:18-19, Gal 4:4-5)
3. How our perspective needs to be renewed. (16-20)
  - a. After processing such weighty trouble, we come into his presence to worship him.
  - b. The hours of questions in the night are preparation for . . .
    - i. Worship (humble adoration).
    - ii. Proclamation (confident testimony).

### Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: Asaph's questions and doubts are raw and genuine. Have you been disappointed with God's supply? Timing? Or Silence? In what way did prayer ("crying out") factor in? How did the struggle motivate you to come to God?
2. Based on #1, above: The questions of vv 7-9 are dark and desperate. Read these verses. Discuss these questions.
3. Based on #2, above: Memories of God's works or sustained faithfulness in seasons of our lives can completely change our attitudes and outlook in the darkest nights of our souls. The greatest miracle to recall and meditate on is the redemption of your life. God sent Jesus to die and be resurrected in your place. How does recalling this redemption change your outlook / attitude?
4. Based on #3, above: In what ways have you experienced deeper worship and more effective "proclamation" after and because of how God shepherded you through dark nights?