

Day by Day in the Word

Praying our Trouble Psalm 13

1. **God, I'm** _____.
(Psalm 13:1-2)

2. **God, this is really** _____.
(Psalm 13:3-4)

3. **No matter what, I'm** _____.
(Psalm 13:5-6)

1. Identify a situation in which you've cried out to God with questions like "How long?" and "Why?". What kind of enemy were you facing? How did you experience the apparent distance of God?
2. Let's spend some time figuring out what "hide your face" means. Look at the following verses: Psalms 44:24; 30:7; 88:141; 27:9; 69:17; 102:2; 143:7; 104:29. What does this phrase mean? What does it mean to have God shine his face on you? See Psalms 31:16; 67:1; 80:3, 7, 19; 119:135. How should we respond in this situation? What can you do today?
3. Let's look at what the enemies in the book of Psalms are like and what they say. See Psalms 3:2; 10:11, 13; 12:4; 17:10; 22:7-8; 42:3, 10; 59:7; 64:5; 71:10-11; 73:11; 94:7; 115:2; and, Isaiah 29:15; Ezekiel 8:12. What enemies are you facing and what are they saying about who God is and what He does? How can you counteract the work of these enemies?
4. What role could a small group or your church play in helping to deal with the wrestling of our thoughts and the sorrow in our hearts? If I'm open and honest with God and I'm open and honest with a small group, what impact would that have in my life as I walk through these very difficult trials?
5. There is a massive change that takes place in verse 5, which begins with the word "but." We've moved from "How long?" to "I will sing." What is that change and how does it come about? What character traits of God become very foundational? What actions of God become very foundational? Identify in your life where God has "dealt bountifully" with you (where he has been good to you). How will this help you as you walk through trials?