



Welcome! We are glad you chose to worship with us.

## Psalm of Suffering

In Psalm 6, David the king of Israel, goes through a range of emotions as he suffers from an undisclosed illness.

<sup>1</sup>O Lord, do not rebuke me in Your anger,  
Nor chasten me in Your wrath.

<sup>2</sup>Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am pining away;  
Heal me, O Lord, for my bones are dismayed.

<sup>3</sup>And my soul is greatly dismayed;  
But You, O Lord—how long?

<sup>4</sup>Return, O Lord, rescue my soul;  
Save me because of Your lovingkindness.

<sup>5</sup>For there is no mention of You in death;  
In Sheol who will give You thanks?

<sup>6</sup>I am weary with my sighing;  
Every night I make my bed swim,  
I dissolve my couch with my tears.

<sup>7</sup>My eye has wasted away with grief;  
It has become old because of all my adversaries.

<sup>8</sup>Depart from me, all you who do iniquity,  
For the Lord has heard the voice of my weeping.

<sup>9</sup>The Lord has heard my supplication,  
The Lord receives my prayer.

<sup>10</sup>All my enemies will be ashamed and greatly dismayed;  
They shall turn back, they will suddenly be ashamed.

Vs. 1 – Fear because he thinks that his suffering is some kind of punishment from God because of his sins.

Vs. 2-3 – Impatience because he prays for healing but healing does not come and he asks impatiently, "How long... will I have to suffer...?"

Vs. 4-5 – Bargaining. He promises to continue worshipping God if he is healed. He reminds God that if he dies, he will not be able to give thanks anymore.

Vs. 6-7 – Depression. He complains that nothing he does brings satisfaction. He is reduced to weeping and despair, there seems to be no hope.

Vs. 8-9 – Joy. Suddenly, he is cured and restored and feels vindicated and relieved that God has heard his prayers at last.

Vs. 10 – Confidence. Now that he is well again, he is ready to deal with his enemies, ready to put them to shame for their disbelief and attacks while he was in a weakened state.

This is what scholars call a "suffering psalm or prayer" and is quite helpful to us who suffer from various aches and pains whether they are physical, social, psychological or spiritual.

Here are a few lessons to draw:

.....continued on inside

## Psalm of Suffering

A. To suffer is human

More than 2500 years ago this man suffered the exact same emotions that we do today when faced with trouble or illness: fear, anger, depression, bargaining, joy, etc. This should help us realize that what we are going through is not new but actually part of normal human existence. We should not feel overwhelmed or unique or defeated or think no one understands, because everyone suffers, and they do so in pretty much the same way.

B. There is not always a quick fix

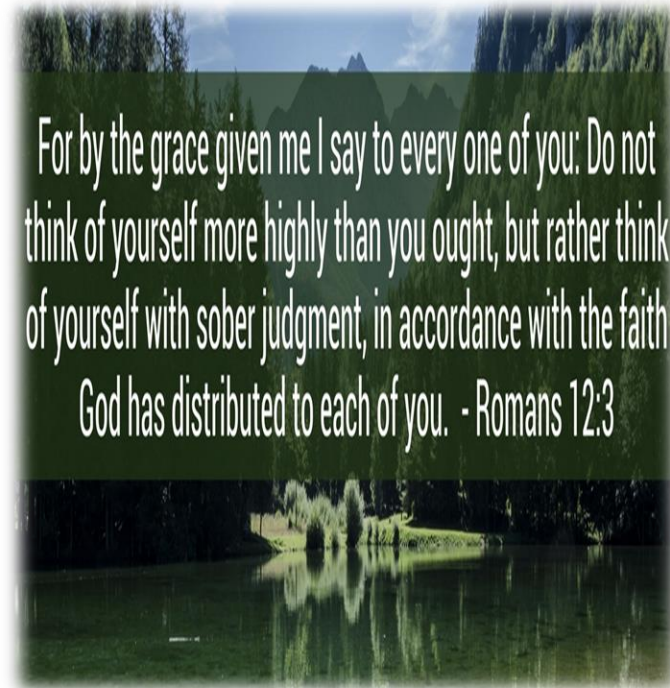
Here was David, God's special servant and king, chosen by God for this role, and he is going through this terrible time. You see, the severity and length of our suffering is not due to our favor or disfavor with God. Suffering is used and permitted by God for His own purposes in our lives. However, He will not let it go on one second more than it needs to. We should not be afraid.

C. Stay faithful despite suffering

Even though he experienced different powerful emotions, David never abandoned God. The worse thing that can happen when you are suffering is not that you might lose everything or own or even die. No, the worst thing that could ever happen is that you might lose your faith!

The true test of suffering is not how brave you are or if you get better or not; the true test is if you remain faithful unto death if need be.

By: Mike Mazzalongo --- bibletalk.tv



## PRAYER REQUESTS

**Bob Justice** is home now, he still has some recovery to be done, but a nurse will be coming to our house twice a week.

All your cards and calls and visits have been greatly appreciated. We love you all.

**Pam Buchanan (Mandy's mom)** still struggling with GI problems, will be seeing a new specialist soon.

**Brandy Aquafedda (Denise Miller's niece)** now taking chemo pills, overall, her progress is good.

**Suzanne Lacey (friend of the Gowers)** kidney tumor shrunk by over a third! Has small lesions on lungs which have shrunk by half of their already small size. Thank you for all of your love and support.

**Tracy Schoen (Marcia & Jesse Serrano's daughter)** neurological problems exacerbated by COVID, she is making progress but still gets confused and has weakened nerve problems. Please pray for a restoration of full cognitive ability and weakened nerve response.

**Continual Prayers Health Reasons/Treatment**

~ **Rusty & Bonnie Parker** many difficulties with Rusty's dementia

~ **Sean Steward (friend of Barry & Millie Redden)** extreme side effects of COVID

~ **Carolyn Fields (friend of Larry Miller)** has terminal cancer.

~ **Allen Till (Dolores Buehler's son-in-law)** cancer treatment

~ **Rita Bowden (friend of Sally Guest)** stage 4 cancer.

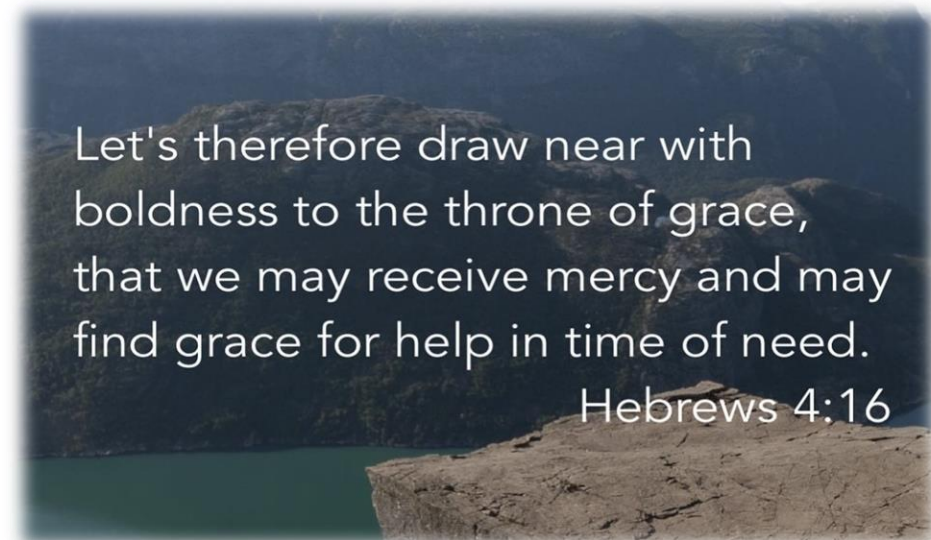
**Our Shut-ins**

Marjorie Trammell

Ravenell Young

Betty McInnes (Syble Mann's mother) in Circle of Life Alzheimer's Home

Schedule of Services	
Bible Class	9:30 am
Morning Worship	10:30 am
Evening Worship	6:00 pm
Wed. Ladies Class	11:00 am
Suspended until Sept 15 <sup>th</sup>	
Wed. Evening Study	7:00 pm



**Minister** Dennis Baker

### Shepherds

Gordon Gower Morris Guest  
Larry Miller

### Deacons

Don Dillahunty Rick Pinney  
Spencer Guest Troy Trammell

## Longing for your presence

Dear God who cares for your creation,  
Look down upon us with compassion.

See our need and save our spirits.  
Open our eyes to what's important.

Our hearts are longing for your presence.

Help us change what dims our view  
Of your good will and certain promise.  
Today be with our souls. Amen.

By J. Randal Matheny

## Things to Know

### Helping Hands Camp Donations

Ladies if you would like to make homemade items to sell at the upcoming ladies retreat please see Sally Guest. All proceeds from your donation will go toward the camp.

### Ladies Retreat Donations

We are asking the ladies of the congregation for your help with baked goods. If you can make and donate items such as cookies, brownies, muffins or sweet breads, please see Patty Pinney or Heidi Guest.

### Visiting Preacher

Jeffrey Howell is a University of Florida graduate and a Masters in Ministry graduate from Freed-Hardeman University. Currently he is serving at the West Olive church of Christ in Peoria, AZ

### ATTENDANCE

Bible Class 61  
AM Worship 100  
PM Worship 25

### FINANCES

Weekly Budget \$3995  
Weekly Contribution \$2973

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