

Honest Prayer
Prayer That God Answers – Part 7
Life Church St. Louis – February 13, 2022
Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker
Message Videos – www.lcstl.org/messages

Genesis 3:8 (ESV) And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

Psalm 66:18 (ESV) If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.

Deuteronomy 31:16-17 (ESV) And the LORD said to Moses, "... This people will rise and whore after the foreign gods among them in the land that they are entering, and they will forsake me and break my covenant that I have made with them. Then my anger will be kindled against them in that day, and I will forsake them and hide my face from them, and they will be devoured.

1. Be _____ with God

Psalm 74:1 (ESV) O God, why do you cast us off forever? Why does your anger smoke against the sheep of your pasture?

A. _____ God of your relationship

Psalm 74:2 (ESV) Remember your congregation, which you have purchased of old, which you have redeemed to be the tribe of your heritage! Remember Mount Zion, where you have dwelt.

B. _____ what's happened

Psalm 74:3, 7 (ESV) Direct your steps to the perpetual ruins; the enemy has destroyed everything in the sanctuary! They set your sanctuary on fire; they profaned the dwelling place of your name, bringing it down to the ground.

C. Speak of God's _____

Psalm 74:9-10 (ESV) We do not see our signs; there is no longer any prophet, and there is none among us who knows how long. How long, O God, is the foe to scoff? Is the enemy to revile your name forever?

2. Remember God's _____

Psalm 74:12 (ESV) Yet God my King is from of old, working salvation in the midst of the earth.

A. Retell God's past _____

Psalm 74:13 (ESV) You divided the sea by your might; you broke the heads of the sea monsters on the waters.

B. Worship God as _____

Psalm 74:16-17 (ESV) Yours is the day, yours also the night; you have established the heavenly lights and the sun. You have fixed all the boundaries of the earth; you have made summer and winter.

3. Call on God to _____

Psalm 74:18-19 (ESV) Remember this, O LORD, how the enemy scoffs, and a foolish people reviles your name. Do not deliver the soul of your dove to the wild beasts; do not forget the life of your poor forever.

A. Remind God of His _____

Psalm 74:20-21 (ESV) Have regard for the covenant, for the dark places of the land are full of the habitations of violence. Let not the downtrodden turn back in shame; let the poor and needy praise your name.

B. Ask God to bring _____

Psalm 74:22-23 (ESV) Arise, O God, defend your cause; remember how the foolish scoff at you all the day! Do not forget the clamor of your foes, the uproar of those who rise against you, which goes up continually!

Weekly Healing Scripture

James 5:14-15 (ESV) Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.

Honest Prayer Study Guide
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Intro. Why did Adam and Eve hide from God in the garden of Eden (Genesis 3:8)?

In what ways do people today hide from God? Why do they hide from God?

What impact does sin have on a person's relationship with God (Psalm 66:18)?

Describe the results of sin in a person's life (Deuteronomy 31:16-17).

1A. How is the psalmist being honest and real with God in Psalm 74:1?

1B. Why is it important to remember better times in your relationship with God (Psalm 74:2)?

1C. What is the point of telling God what's happened in our lives when He knows all about it (Psalm 74:3-7)?

1D. Why do you think that God was silent and distant from the psalmist (Psalm 74:9-10)?

1E. What do you think was God's principal purpose in putting Psalm 74 into His Word?

2A. In what ways is the psalmist shifting the focus of his prayer in Psalm 74:12?

2B. What great miracles is the psalmist referring to in Psalm 74:13-15? Why do you think he uses poetic language?

2C. What is the impact on a person of worshipping God as creator (Psalm 74:16-17)?

2D. What does shifting the focus of prayer from the problem to the greatness of God do for the one praying?

3A. How is the psalmist appealing to God to act (Psalm 74:18-19)?

3B. What place do God's promises have in prayer (Psalm 74:20-21)?

3C. What principle of prayer is revealed by the psalmist language in Psalm 74:22-23 of "your cause", "mock you", "your adversaries" and "your enemies"?

3D. Is there a situation in your own life where you have been hiding from God or found it difficult to be real with God? If yes, how could that change?