

Group Prayer Requests

Theology of Suffering

Complaining God's Way: Giving voice to your suffering

Psalm 13 (378) November 11, 2018

_____ Psalms

Lament is an expression of _____ or _____
that often includes _____.

- They flow out of a _____ with God.
- They are _____, _____, and _____.

What Is My Voice In Suffering?

- ❶ State your _____ problem and your
problem with _____. (1-2)

God _____ us to express our pain and _____.

- ❷ Appeal to God to _____ and get _____. (3-4)
God _____ us to _____ ask Him for help.

- ❸ Express your _____ in God's _____. (5)
God wants us to reflect on the “_____”.

- ❹ Praise God even when there is no _____
change in your circumstance. (6)

God _____ our praise in the midst of our suffering.

Complaining Man's Way

- » Expecting from God what we think He should give or do for us.
- » Finding the solution in man.
- » Rebelling against and stubbornly refusing to believe God.
- » Doubting God and casting criticism on His justice, goodness and power.
- » Cultivates more complaining.
- » May result in walking away from God.
- » Reveals a heart that is only devoted to God to the extent that He does for us what we want.

Complaining God's Way

- » Expecting from God only what He promises to do.
- » Finding the solution in God alone.
- » Faithfully accepting and submitting to God.
- » Trusting God's justice, goodness and power.
- » Cultivates praise and thanksgiving.
- » Results in sustained devotion to God.
- » Reveals a heart that is devoted to God ... period.

Discussion Guide

What does your voice typically sound like in times of pain, suffering or discomfort?

What are some examples of unhealthy voices in suffering?

Read Psalm 10:1

When you are facing suffering and pain what "problems" do you have with God?

How does understanding that God allows for us to express our pain and frustration help us in times of suffering?

Read Hebrews 4:16

When in a time of suffering, what is the difference between aggressively asking God for help and demanding that He respond? Which one is more Biblical?

Read Romans 8:28-30

How does suffering fit into the "now" and "not yet" big picture of our spiritual growth?

Note

Justified: Positional Sanctification

Conformed: Progressive Sanctification

Glorified: Permanent Sanctification

How does God's character give us assurance for the "big picture"?

Read Job 1:20-21, 2:9-10

Why does God deserve our praise during times of pain?

What are some worship songs that offer praise to God and bring you comfort during times of suffering?

Discuss the differences between complaining man's way and complaining God's way.