

THE LOVINGKINDNESS OF GOD THROUGH PRAYER

How do Psalms 42-43 teach us to access the lovingkindness of God in times of adversity?

Psalms 42-43

Context:

- Psalmist misses and longs to be in the house of God (Ps. 42:1-5).
- Psalmist feels forsaken and forgotten by God (Ps. 42:2, 9).
- Lovingkindness of God (Ps. 42:8).

10 Ideas for Meaningful Prayer from Psalms 42-43:

1. Describes God as his life 42:8
2. Describes God as his rock 42:9
3. Describes God as the source of his hope 42:11
4. Describes God as the source of his help 42:11
5. Describes God as the one who will vindicate him 43:1
6. Describes God as the one who will deliver him 43:1
7. Describes God as his strength 43:2
8. Describes God as the source of light 43:3
9. Describes God as the source of truth 43:3
10. Describes God as the source of his exceeding joy 43:4

As along life's road you roll, focus on the donut and not the hole!

God of My Life (42:8)

- All life comes from God (Gen. 1:20, 21, 24, 28; & 2:7).
- God can give and take life (Gen. 6:17, 19).
- Although we know God can renew life (42:6-8), we need reminders that He is the living God (Josh. 3:6-10 & 4:20-24).
- If God is the God of our lives, how should this shape our prayers?
 - Understand that we pray to a living God
 - Understand that God cares about our lives
 - Understand that God enables us to cross our own Jordan river
 - Understand that God leaves us with memorials of Himself to help us stay focused on Him.

God My Rock (42:9)

1. Read Psalm 42-43 to refresh your mind on these passages.

2. In what sense is God our rock?

3. Is it reasonable to experience times of doubt and fear, causing us to question where God is?

4. Read Psalm 18 (parallel with 2 Samuel 22) and consider these questions:
 - a. What words did David use to describe his feelings during his adversity? (vs 4-6)

 - b. Describe the response from God to David's cry. (vs 7-15)

 - c. Describe David's feelings after being delivered. (vs 16-24)

 - d. Summarize the conclusion David reached about God. (vs 25-31, 46-50)

5. If God is our rock, how should this shape our prayers?