REMEMBER PSALM 77 7/7/24

I. ASAPH'S EXPLANATION

Psalm 77:1-6 - "I cry aloud to God, aloud to God, and he will hear me. ² In the day of my trouble I seek the Lord; in the night my hand is stretched out without wearying; my soul refuses to be comforted. ³ When I remember God, I moan; when I meditate, my spirit faints. Selah ⁴ You hold my eyelids open; I am so troubled that I cannot speak. ⁵ I consider the days of old, the years long ago. ⁶ I said, 'Let me remember my song in the night; let me meditate in my heart.' Then my spirit made a diligent search."

- A. His physical posture reflects his internal state
- B. The Bible is built for difficult days...not just happy days

II. ASAPH'S QUESTIONS

Psalm 77:7-9 - "Will the Lord spurn forever, and never again be favorable? "Has his steadfast love forever ceased? Are his promises at an end for all time?" Has God forgotten to be gracious? Has he in anger shut up his compassion?" Selah

- A. Asaph is radically honest with God in his questions
 - ~ Questions are not a sign of weak faith
- B. Our questions should drive us to the truth of God's Word

III. ASAPH REMEBERS

Psalm 77:10-12 - "Then I said, 'I will appeal to this, to the years of the right hand of the Most High.' "I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember your wonders of old. "I will ponder all your work, and meditate on your mighty deeds."

- A. Asaph's tools to remember are:
 - ~ God's Word
 - ~ Testimonies of God's faithfulness
- B. Asaph remembers that God is a redeeming God
 - ~ Cites God's deliverance of Israel from Egypt and the parting of the Red Sea
- C. Remembering is not a promise of improvement
 - ~ It is comfort during trials and tribulations

IV. ASAPH WORSHIPS

Psalm 77:13-20 – "Your way, O God, is holy. What god is great like our God? ¹⁴ You are the God who works wonders; you have made known your might among the peoples. ¹⁵ You with your arm redeemed your people, the children of Jacob and Joseph. Selah. ¹⁶ When the waters saw you, O God, when the waters saw you, they were afraid; indeed, the deep trembled. ¹⁷ The clouds poured out water; the skies gave forth thunder; your arrows flashed on every side. ¹⁸ The crash of your thunder was in the whirlwind; your lightnings lighted up the world; the earth trembled and shook. ¹⁹ Your way was through the sea, your path through the great waters; yet your footprints were unseen. ²⁰ You led your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron."

- A. He reminds us that God's "footprints are unseen" (v.19)
 - ~ We may not always see God's working
- B. He reminds us that God never stops leading us (v.20)
- C. His worship = There is no one like our God

COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. What did you think about the message this week? What stood out to you or challenged your thinking?
- 2. What keeps us from being radically honest with God like Asaph and other Psalmists?
- 3. As Christians, how should we respond when our feelings don't match God's truth? How can this message be vastly different from the world?
- 4. What encouragement can we draw from Asaph's worship in vs.19-20?
- 5. Why is Asaph's question in Psalm 77:13 such an important question and reminder? What are some ways we can remind ourselves of this when difficulty comes into our lives?
- 6. One of the things we highlighted was the power of God's Word and our testimonies to help us remember the Lord. Consider organizing your group so that a couple people can share a testimony of God's faithfulness. Use this as a time to encourage the hearts of the group by remembering the faithfulness of the Lord.
- 7. How does this Psalm shift your view of God and His Word?
- 8. What is one point of application from the message that you can live out this week?

PRAYING THE PSALM

- Pray and ask God to bring to your memory all that He has done for you.
- Ask God to shepherd you through your wrestling and questions and don't fear being honest with Him.
- Ask God to deepen your faith in the midst of you trial and sorrow.
- Thank God for His great power to lead us.
- Thank God that He understands and saw Asaph's most deeply felt emotions and He sees our emotions too!