

GROUP PRAYER

Sometimes when we are in the middle of a struggle, it's hard to see how God is going to work it all out. It can feel like we're alone and that there doesn't seem to be a way out, but God reminds us in Psalm 34 that He is with us and He is our rescue.

- Read Psalm 34:17-19 as a group and then pray these verses over those who are hurting in your group, reminding each other that we are not alone and that there is hope.

MEMORY VERSE

Psalm 34:18

The Lord is near the brokenhearted; he saves those crushed in spirit.

When You Can't See God's Hand - Trust His Heart!



4589 N. Marty Ave. | Fresno, CA 93722 | 559.275.0681
FresnoChurch.com | Joshua M. Irmiler, Sr. Pastor

THE STORY UNFOLDS

Week of: **Sunday, March 8, 2020**

WARM-UP

Have you ever been to a foreign country? What was it like?

SERMON REVIEW

This past Sunday we were introduced to Moses - one of the main characters in the book of Exodus. We see how from his birth to the end of the second chapter, he lives as a foreigner in one land to another, but God raises him up and orchestrates all of these events to eventually bring deliverance to the nation of Israel.

SERMON APPLICATION

GOD HEARS OUR PRAYERS

At the end of chapter 2, the children of Israel cry out to God for deliverance. Their feelings of desperation ran deep and God heard their cries.

Hebrews 4:16

Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

- Why do people sometimes hesitate to ask God for help?

- Read Exodus 2:1-10. Think of Moses' mother - how do you think she felt having to let her baby go, but then seeing God work it out to where she could keep him, nurse him AND get paid for it? How do you think she thought of God after that?

GOD REMEMBERS HIS PROMISES

In verse 24 after God hears His people's cry of desperation, He remembers His promise from hundreds of years ago to bless this nation. This word "remember" does

not mean that God forgot, but implies action with keeping this promise.

Isaiah 41:10

Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid, for I am your God. I will strengthen you; I will help you; I will hold on to you with my righteous right hand.

- When have you experienced God fulfill a promise in your life?

GOD SEES OUR PROBLEMS

The children of Israel we're enduring excruciating challenges, but we also see Moses hitting some pretty low points in this chapter.

Exodus 2:15

When Pharaoh heard about this, he tried to kill Moses. But Moses fled from Pharaoh and went to live in the land of Midian, and sat down by a well.

- Read Exodus 2:11-15 Moses was already a foreigner in Egypt and then he had to escape to another unknown land and people. What do you think Moses' mindset was when he sat down by that well?

- What's an area of your life you wish God would "take notice"? What does Exodus 2:24-25 teach us about God?

GOD FEELS OUR PAIN

Pain is real. The hurt and brokenness we experience in this world penetrates deeply, but every pain we feel, Jesus, Himself has felt also. We can take comfort in the fact that we are not alone in our hurt.

1 Peter 4:12-13

Dear friends, don't be surprised when the fiery ordeal comes among you to test you as if something unusual were happening to you. Instead, rejoice as you share in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may also rejoice with great joy when his glory is revealed.

- How do you typically respond when life doesn't go the way you expected? What steps can you take to more fully wait on God and His plans for your life?
