

PRAY WITH THE KING

LIFE GROUP MATERIAL

5th Meeting THEME: How to survive

Prepare yourself. Pray for your Life Group's meeting. Read Psalm 3

20.00 – 20.10 Start Sometimes you feel that you and what you want to contribute is not appreciated. For instance on workplace/in church. How does that feel? And how should we deal with that?

20.10 – 20.15 Pray. Thank God for the book of Psalms, a book of prayers and songs, fulfilled in Jesus (Luke 24:44), that helps us pray, persevere and survive.

20.15 – 20.40 Bible passage

Before you read: The book of Psalms began with two choruses singing about the blessed Man and the blessed people who would take refuge in Him. It was important that they were singing about this happiness, for this narrow way behind Him does not always look so attractive. However, we are invited by these songs to go the pathway of this Messiah, the pathway of blessedness and to join these prayers and songs. (Compare Mat. 5:2-12 and I Peter, for instance 2:4, 3:14, 4:14)

Read Psalm 3 twice. (Or read & sing it)

Look again at verses 1-2 The Messiah-King tells his circumstances to God.

- What do you know about David's situation here? How has Jesus been in similar circumstances?

Look again at verses 3-4 The Messiah-King tells his confidence in God; and prays and is answered.

- How does his confidence in God help in these circumstances?
- Verse 4 is the middle of the Psalm. The anointed King prays and God answers (see also Psalm 2:6,8). Now when you read further, ask yourself: how did God answer this prayer?

Look again at verses 5-8 The Messiah-King receives comfort from God.

- What did he receive in answer to his prayer in verse 5? How does this apply to Jesus and to us?
- What did he receive in answer to his prayer in verses 6-8? How does this apply to Jesus and to us?

20.40 – 20.50 Digging deeper

In the Gospels we read the words and deeds of Jesus (as we read in the books of Samuel about the words and deeds of king David). But in the book of Psalms, we look into the heart of Jesus and of His messianic people!

- Are you aware that many times we ourselves are the ones who do not appreciate what he tells us or gives to us? In other words: we also are many times the ones who don't believe in Jesus' way. Here we may ask for forgiveness and still come to him (see Psalm 2:12b)
- Are you aware that Jesus still prays for his church and identifies himself with it? (See Acts 9:4 'Me')
- Sometimes we feel that we and what we want to contribute is not appreciated. How did we learn from this Psalm to deal with that? Where/how does this help you? Share and bring what you shared in prayer.

20.50 – 21.00 End Read the Psalm again and let the Psalm inspire your prayers!