



let down

How Expecting Less Can Give You More

## WHEN GOD DISAPPOINTS.

If we allow ourselves to be honest, sometimes God is very disappointing.

Healing doesn't happen.

Phone calls aren't returned.

Desperate prayers seem to have no answers.

What are we supposed to do with that? Well, in the Psalms, David shows us it's okay to feel that way in the first place. You can be honest with God. No need to hide your emotions or clean them up first. He can handle it.

In Joseph's story, we're also shown how important it is to trust in God's faithfulness. We stay faithful to Him, knowing He is still faithful to us. He *will* come through on his promises, even if everything that can go wrong, does go wrong in the meantime.

Whether the miracle you're hoping for happens in a timely manner or not, on this side of heaven or not, the way you expected or not - we can choose to lean on our faithful God, trusting He is working in this, and believing He is good.

# IN THE BIBLE.

## **Psalm 42:1-5**

As the deer pants for streams of water,  
so my soul pants for you, my God.

**2** My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.  
When can I go and meet with God?

**3** My tears have been my food  
day and night,

while people say to me all day long,  
“Where is your God?”

**4** These things I remember  
as I pour out my soul:

how I used to go to the house of God  
under the protection of the Mighty One[d]  
with shouts of joy and praise  
among the festive throng.

**5** Why, my soul, are you downcast?  
Why so disturbed within me?

Put your hope in God,  
for I will yet praise him,  
my Savior and my God.

## **Hebrews 10:20-23**

By his death, Jesus opened a new and life-giving way through the curtain into the Most Holy Place. 21 And since we have a great High Priest who rules over God’s house, 22 let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him. For our guilty consciences have been sprinkled with Christ’s blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water.

23 Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise.

# QUESTIONS.

*Feel free to talk through some or all of these questions*

- 1.) What's something that sticks out to you in the verses above?
- 2.) Can someone give a synopsis of what Joseph walked through from Genesis 37-41?
- 3.) How did Joseph respond to every struggle? How was God working in the midst of the story?
- 4.) Has God ever let you down? What are some ways to respond and walk through that when it happens?

## **TAKE TEN:**

- How did you see God work in your life this week?
- What has God been teaching you in His Word?
- What kind of conversations are you having with your pre-Christian friends?
- What good can you do around here? (in your life/circumstance)
- How can we help you in prayer and what do you want us to ask you about next week?

**Whenever you read the Bible, ask yourself these three questions:**

1. What does this tell you about God?
2. What does this tell you about yourself and the world?
3. How is this going to change who you are and how you live?