



TALK IT OVER

Prayers I Need to Pray “Recalling God’s Faithfulness”

August 16/17, 2014
(Psalm 77)

How to use Talk It Over:

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with the key questions, add any optional scriptures and questions if needed, and then wrap up by deciding on your next steps.

The Main Idea:

Meditating on God’s faithfulness can offer a powerful perspective shift when we face anxiety over our present circumstances.

Key Questions:

- Have you ever considered how God has been faithful in your life? Have you found this to be helpful when you experience periods of doubt or anxiety? What are the major barriers in your life that keep you from trusting that God will be faithful?
- Go around the group, reading Psalm 77 three verses at a time. After each section, talk about the author’s tone. After the entire Psalm has been read, discuss how the author’s attitude has changed from beginning to end.
- Have you ever been in a situation where it seemed that God had “forgotten to be merciful”? (Verse 9). What was the situation, and how did it affect your relationship with God?
 - On the other side of those circumstances, have you been able to look back and find evidence of God’s faithfulness?
 - When you look back at the course of your life, is there evidence that God has worked to pull you towards him, or to protect you from harm? Does meditating on God’s past providence and faithfulness help you to find peace as you face the future?
- Many of the Psalmists look to history for evidence of God’s power and faithfulness. Does it help you to hear other people talk about how God has been faithful in their lives, or to look at the miracles in scripture as evidence of God’s presence and providence?
 - Is this more or less helpful than looking for evidence in your own life?
- Read Psalm 71:19-21. Does it require courage to proclaim this kind of hope? How do those without faith in God view this kind of radical belief in God’s faithfulness? How would you respond to them?
- If you are currently struggling to see God’s faithfulness in your life, feel free to share that with your group, and take time to pray together that you would see clearly how God has been faithful in each of your lives.

Next Steps:

- Verse 12 says “I will meditate on all your works and consider your mighty deeds”. In your quiet time this week, take time to meditate on how God has been faithful in your life. You may also find it helpful to look at a familiar Biblical story and make note of how God displayed his faithfulness.

In Psalm 77, the author is able to proclaim God’s goodness and power in spite of the challenges that he’s facing. He does this by meditating on how God has been faithful to him and to the nation of Israel in the past. We have access to this same kind of perspective shift if we can resolve to maintain our hope that God will come through for us as he has in the past.

Our hope can be bolstered by hearing the testimonies of those around us, reading of God’s faithfulness in the Bible, and by meditating on how God has been present in our own lives.