

Experiencing God when Life is Hard: Hope

Life is hard. And so much of why life is hard is because sin has corrupted this world. It simply doesn't function the way that God originally designed. Thankfully, as we've seen over the past three weeks, we can experience God in the midst of life's difficulties by seeking wisdom, by worshiping Him, and by remembering all His benefits in our lives. But what about when life is hard for a different reason? What about when life is hard because of our own sin? Can we still expect to experience God? Psalm 106 suggests that even then there is hope because of who God is.

Opening Discuss: Share about a time when life was hard because of your own sin?

Read Psalm 106

1. What strikes you about this psalm?
2. If you were to summarize that main thing that we learn about God from this psalm, what would that be?
3. How would you describe what the psalmist prays in verse 6?
4. What examples of Israel's sin does the psalmist recount in verses 7-39?
5. How does history of how God has dealt with His people recounted in this psalm lead to what the psalmist prays in verse 47?

6. Imagine you are an Israelite living in exile in Babylon. How might reciting this psalm in public worship create hope in your heart?

7. Read Romans 5:1-2. What does this say about a believer's standing with God?

8. In what ways have you experienced the truth that even when you have sinned the Lord is good and that his steadfast love endures forever (v. 1)?

9. How does this psalm affect you? What does it do for you? What is your main take away from Psalm 106?

Practicing the Rhythms of Rooted this Week

Daily Devotion ♦ Prayer ♦ Repentance ♦ Sacrificial Generosity ♦ Serve the Community ♦ Share Your Story ♦ Worship



Daily Devotion: Memorize the verse from Psalm 106 that is most significant to you and then continue over the next week to recite it and talk to your soul based on the truth of that verse.



Repentance: Take time this week to invite God to show you any ways that you might mirror the sin of Israel in not believing or trusting God. Ask Him to show you any sin in your life. Confess it (1 John 1:9). Ask God to help you turn away from your sin.