

## WEEK 3 - Complain

### MAIN IDEA OF SERIES:

God's presence fills the gap between the places of pain and the promises of his goodness.

4 parts to Lament

TURN

COMPLAINT

Godly complaining in Lament leads you to the heart of God

Typically two responses when we get hurt

- Murmur
- Mask
- A better way: Mourn

How to complain the right way:

1. Come humble

*"A lament honestly and specifically names a situation or circumstance that is painful, wrong, or unjust--in other words, a circumstance that does not align with God's character and therefore does not make sense within God's kingdom."*

2. Pray the Bible

'O Lord , why do you stand so far away? Why do you hide when I am in trouble?' Psalms 10:1

### **WHY?**

*"Wake up LORD! Why are you sleeping? Get up, don't reject us forever!  
Why do you hide and forget our affliction and oppression?"*

*-Psalm 44:23-24*

### **HOW?**

*"How long, LORD? Will you forget me forever?"*

*-Psalm 13:1*

*How shall we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land? Ps 137:4*

Godly Complaint gives voice and expression to hard questions.

3. Be honest

'The wicked arrogantly hunt down the poor. They brag about their evil desires; they praise the greedy and curse the Lord . The wicked are too proud to seek God. They seem to think that God

is dead. Yet they succeed in everything they do. They do not see your punishment awaiting them. They sneer at all their enemies. They think, "Nothing bad will ever happen to us! We will be free of trouble forever!" Their mouths are full of cursing, lies, and threats. Trouble and evil are on the tips of their tongues. They lurk in ambush in the villages, waiting to murder innocent people. They are always searching for helpless victims. Like lions crouched in hiding, they wait to pounce on the helpless. Like hunters they capture the helpless and drag them away in nets. Their helpless victims are crushed; they fall beneath the strength of the wicked. The wicked think, "God isn't watching us! He has closed his eyes and won't even see what we do!" Psalms 10:2-11

**Loving God will ALL of your heart means loving him through the honest cries of your hurting heart.**

'Arise, O Lord ! Punish the wicked, O God! Do not ignore the helpless! Why do the wicked get away with despising God? They think, "God will never call us to account." But you see the trouble and grief they cause. You take note of it and punish them. The helpless put their trust in you. You defend the orphans. Break the arms of these wicked, evil people! Go after them until the last one is destroyed. The Lord is king forever and ever! The godless nations will vanish from the land. Lord, you know the hopes of the helpless. Surely you will hear their cries and comfort them. You will bring justice to the orphans and the oppressed, so mere people can no longer terrify them.' Psalms 10:12-18

**Loving God will ALL of your heart means loving him through the honest cries of your hurting heart.**

Write out your complaints

"God I know you are not \_\_\_\_\_, but it feels like you are today."

4. Don't get stuck

- TURN-COMPLAIN-ASK-TRUST