

# Soaking Sunday

10/3/21

- *Our God*

## Communion

I trust God. Until I don't.

That doesn't feel like a very Christian thing to say. But if I don't acknowledge the struggle, I can't address it. I don't think I'm the only one.

So many of us raise our hands high as we proclaim that our God is a good, good, father, but then we find ourselves lying in our bed at night with tear-stained pillows, facing realities that don't feel very good at all.

It's hard not to feel suspicious of God when our circumstances don't seem to line up with his promises. And it's difficult not to doubt the light of his truth when everything around us looks dark.

But we must know there's a purpose in every season — even seasons of darkness. And we must choose... **will we see dark times as a womb or a tomb?**

Is it a birth of something new or the death of what we thought should be?

Will we fix our eyes on God's goodness or give into hopelessness and despair?

Oh, friends. I know the dark places are scary. But let's ask God to bring good out of these difficult places we so desperately want to be done with. And instead of being suspicious of him let's lift up our praises to him.

Praise may not shift our circumstances, but it will definitely begin to change our hearts..

- *Yearn*

## Fear

### Isaiah 43:1-3

Thus says the LORD who created you, and He who formed you; *Fear Not!* For I have redeemed you, I have called you by name; *You are mine.*

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they will not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched, Nor will the flame burn you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One...your Savior.

- *No Longer Slaves*

## Dryness

**Proverbs 17:22** A joyful heart is good medicine, But a broken spirit dries up the bones.

**Ezekiel 37:3** Then He said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?”

### **Psalm 42**

As the deer longs for streams of water, so my soul longs for you, O God. I thirst for God, the living God. When can I go and stand before him? Day and night I have only tears for food, while my enemies continually taunt me, saying, “Where is this God of yours?”

My heart is breaking as I remember how it used to be...Why am I discouraged? Why is my heart so sad? I will put my hope in God! I will praise him again— my Savior and my God!

Now I am deeply discouraged, but I will remember you...I hear the tumult of the raging seas as your waves and surging tides sweep over me.

But each day the Lord pours his unfailing love upon me, and through each night I sing his songs, praying to God who gives me life...

Why am I discouraged? Why is my heart so sad? I will put my hope in God! I will praise him again...

- *Turn Your Eyes*
- *As the Deer*

## Faith & Hope

### **Exodus 14:10-14**

As Pharaoh approached, the people of Israel looked up and panicked when they saw the Egyptians overtaking them. They cried out to the Lord, and they said to Moses, “Why did you bring us out here to die in the wilderness? Weren’t there enough graves for us in Egypt...”

But Moses told the people, “Don’t be afraid. Just stand still and watch the Lord rescue you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The Lord himself will fight for you...”

- *Graves into Gardens*
- *Our God*