

WHEN YOU ARE IN A HARD SEASON, YOU WILL BE TEMPTED TO....

1. QUESTION YOUR CONCEPT OF GOD

Listen to my prayer, O God, do not ignore my plea hear me and answer me.

Psalm 55:1 (NIV)

2. ENTERTAIN TROUBLING THOUGHTS

My thoughts trouble me and I am distraught. **Psalm 55:2 (NIV)**

My heart is in anguish within me, the terrors of death have fallen on me. **Psalm 55:4 (NIV)**

Fear and trembling have beset me, horror has overwhelmed me. **Psalm 55:5 (NIV)**

3. ESCAPE

Oh, that I had wings of a dove! I would fly away and be at rest. I would flee far away and stay in the desert **Psalm 55:6-7 (NIV)**

TO FIND RELIEF IN A HARD SEASON, YOU NEED TO...

1. GO HARD AFTER GOD

Evening, morning and noon I cry out in distress, and he hears my voice. **Psalm 55:17 (NIV)**

2. SHARE THE LOAD

Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous be shaken **Psalm 55:22 (NIV)**

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Galatians 6:2 (NIV)

3. TRUST THE LORD

But as for me, I trust in you. **Psalm 55:23 (NIV)**

Listen to my prayer, O God, do not ignore my plea; hear me and answer me. My thoughts trouble me and I am distraught because of what my enemy is saying, because of the threats of the wicked; for they bring down suffering on me and assail me in their anger. My heart is in anguish within me; the terrors of death have fallen on me. Fear and trembling have beset me; horror has overwhelmed me. I said, "Oh, that I had the wings of a dove! I would fly away and be at rest. I would flee far away and stay in the desert; I would hurry to my place of shelter, far from the tempest and storm." Lord, confuse the wicked, confound their words, for I see violence and strife in the city. Day and night they prowl about on its walls; malice and abuse are within it. Destructive forces are at work in the city; threats and lies never leave its streets. If an enemy were insulting me, I could endure it; if a foe were rising against me, I could hide. But it is you, a man like myself, my companion, my close friend, with whom I once enjoyed sweet fellowship at the house of God, as we walked about among the worshipers. Let death take my enemies by surprise; let them go down alive to the realm of the dead, for evil finds lodging among them. As for me, I call to God, and the Lord saves me. Evening, morning and noon I cry out in distress, and he hears my voice. He rescues me unharmed from the battle waged against me, even though many oppose me. God, who is enthroned from of old, who does not change—he will hear them and humble them, because they have no fear of God. My companion attacks his friends; he violates his covenant. His talk is smooth as butter, yet war is in his heart; his words are more soothing than oil, yet they are drawn swords. Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous be shaken. But you, God, will bring down the wicked into the pit of decay; the bloodthirsty and deceitful will not live out half their days. But as for me, I trust in you. **Psalm 55 (NIV)**

THIS WEEK'S READING:

MAY 28: ROM. 3:9-31; 1 SAM. 12; PS. 57

MAY 29: ROM. 4; 1 SAM. 13; PS. 58

MAY 30: ROM. 5; 1 SAM. 14; PS. 59

MAY 31: ROM. 6; 1 SAM. 15; PS. 60

JUN 1: ROM. 7; 1 SAM. 16; PS. 61

JUN 2: ROM. 8; 1 SAM. 17:1-54; PS. 62

JUN 3: ROM. 9:1-29; 1 SAM. 17:55-18:30; PS. 63

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