



It's hard to worship when we don't feel the presence of God in our daily life. We want to praise God, but we just can't do it. The Bible teaches us how to worship through distressing situations. Many of the Psalmists experienced difficult times and wrote about them. This week as we look at how to worship God when it seems like He has hidden His face, we'll figure out how to ask God to look on us and how we can respond in praise. Open your Bibles to Psalm 13 and discuss the questions below with your group.

1. Neal shared a story about losing his dad and his stepdad and his mom sustaining a traumatic brain injury in the span of seven months. Can you think of a time in your life when it seemed like your world was falling apart?
2. **Read Psalm 13:1-2.** You can see David's struggle in the fact that he writes, "How long..." four different times. **Read Numbers 6:22-27, Psalm 11:7, Psalm 17:15 and Psalm 27:4.** Describe what it feels like for God to hide His face from us in our daily life.
3. In our dark moments we tend to wrestle with the thoughts in our mind. One struggle we have can be listening to God's word but not applying it. **Read James 1:22-25.** How do you manage your emotions during dark times?
4. **Read Psalm 13:3-4.** David asks God to look on him and answer. There is something powerful about people actually seeing us. **Read Genesis 16:13, Psalm 80:14, and Matthew 8:5-13.** Talk about the power of God seeing us.
5. David's fear was that his enemies would gain the victory if he were to pass away. This is not a selfish request but a request for the mighty power of God to be known. Think of ways that God can be and is glorified when He acts on our behalf.
6. No matter the situation, David will trust in God. David has known God's faithfulness for generations. **Read Psalm 13:5-6.** Share how you've seen God's faithfulness in your life and how you can trust Him moving forward.
7. The final invitation, or application of this psalm is to praise God. What is your favorite worship song? How does that song invoke a lifestyle of praise in you? How would you like to praise Jesus more in your life?
8. Close your time in prayer. Declare your trust in God's unfailing love and rejoice in His salvation.