

Songs of Grace
Monday, October 26, 2026
Remembering When We Cannot See
When God Is Silent | Psalm 44
Psalm 44:1–8

Some days, remembering God's goodness comes easily for us. Other days, the present hurts so much that yesterday's mercies feel far away. Psalm 44 begins by inviting us to think about God's faithfulness on those latter days.

Think

In this psalm, the sons of Korah lead Israel in singing about stories their fathers told them. These were ancient tales pivotal to Israel's history: their relationship to God and His faithfulness to them. Here, the singers remind Israel that they did not win the land through superior weapons or strength. The Lord acted for His people because He delighted in them (v 3). Notice that they begin with God's deeds before describing their own trouble. This is so important. We need to start with God in order to see our troubles correctly. God is eternal. Our troubles are temporary. God is omniscient. Our sorrows are not.

Now, remembering isn't pretending that the present is easy. Sometimes it's anything but easy. But remembering means telling ourselves the truth, preaching the gospel to ourselves, about the God who has been faithful, even when we can't understand what He's doing now. You and I need that kind of memory. It's essential to our present well-being and ongoing sanctification. The Bible, our own past, and the testimonies of other believers help us hold on to truths our emotions may sometimes struggle to grasp. So, this song is for you today.

Reflect

Can you recall a time when God directed you through something you didn't understand and sustained you through something you couldn't have managed alone? Perhaps you didn't recognize His kindness until much later. What did that experience teach you about Him?

So, think about this: Which truth about God's character do you most need to remember today?

Apply

Read vs 1–8 again. Write down one piece of evidence of God's faithfulness from Scripture and one from your own life. Incorporate that into your prayers today. And then share it with someone who could use encouragement.

And remember this: The God who was faithful yesterday is the same God today.

Pray

If you're unsure about how to pray about this, consider something like this, but make it your own.

Father, thank You for the ways You've cared for me in the past. Thank You that Jesus demonstrates Your unconditional and irrevocable love to me. By Your Spirit, help me remember Your Word and Your past faithfulness when my circumstances confuse me. In Jesus' name, amen.

Songs of Grace
Tuesday, October 27, 2026
When Our Story Takes a Painful Turn
When God Is Silent | Psalm 44
Psalm 44:9–16

Sometimes what we know about God seems difficult to reconcile with what we're living through. I can all say "amen" to that. We pray, trust, and wait, yet circumstances keep growing more painful. The people of Psalm 44 knew that experience, and thankfully, they share it with us.

Think

After eight verses of remembering God's victories, the psalm turns sharply and says, '*But you have rejected us and disgraced us*' (v 9). Defeat, loss, shame, and ridicule have overwhelmed these worshipers. But they don't walk away from God or pretend they aren't confused. Instead, they teach us to bring our bewilderment to God.

This is because true, biblical lament gives us, God's people, actual words for genuine pain. Their accusation describes what God's absence feels like to them. It doesn't explain everything He is doing. And this is another great truth. We can trust the Lord even while telling Him how deeply something hurts us and how confused we are about it.

Reflect

Have you ever felt pressure to sound cheerful when you were grieving? Maybe you've told yourself that a 'good' Christian should have moved past a disappointment by now. Well, this psalm gives you room to speak honestly. God already knows. And it's unhealthy, and perhaps a little hypocritical, to suppress your true feelings when you're talking to God.

So, think about this: What grief or question have you been reluctant to bring before the Lord?

Apply

Find a quiet place and pray without trying to tidy up your feelings. Name your loss, disappointment, fear or confusion. You don't need to try to defend your feelings. Talk honestly to the Lord.

And remember this: Honest lament can be an expression of faith *because* it keeps turning toward God.

Pray

If you're unsure about how to pray about this, consider something like this, but make it your own.

Father, You know the sorrow, doubt, or anger I struggle to put into words. Thank You for Jesus, who, in the Garden of Gethsemane, models how to talk honestly to You. By Your Spirit, help me speak truthfully to You and trust that You hear me. In Jesus' name, amen.

Songs of Grace
Wednesday, October 28, 2026
When Suffering Has No Easy Explanation
When God Is Silent | Psalm 44
Psalm 44:17–21; John 9:1–3

When we or anyone suffers, we want to know why. An explanation might make the world seem more predictable. But sometimes our explanations add to our own pain, or that of the person to whom we are trying to minister the Lord's grace.

Think

In this section, the people say, 'All this has come upon us, though we have not forgotten you' (v 17). They aren't claiming to be sinless. They are saying that abandoning God's covenant doesn't explain their present suffering. God knows the secrets of their hearts (v 21).

Scripture teaches that sin has consequences, yet it also shows us righteous people who suffer. Job's friends wrongly assumed they knew the cause of his troubles. In John 9, Jesus refused the disciples' assumption that a man's blindness could be traced to his sin or his parents' sin. You and I should be cautious about claiming to know what God hasn't revealed. We want to offer explanations, but we must be careful not to speak where God has not spoken.

Reflect

When someone shares a painful experience, do you feel you have to defend God or explain what is happening to them? Or have you been wounded by someone who assumed your suffering was your own fault? That's hard.

So, think about this: How might humility before God, make you a more compassionate companion to yourself or someone else who's hurting?

Apply

Think of someone carrying a heavy burden. Contact that person with a simple expression of care in your prayer or your presence. Listen without rushing to interpret the situation or solve it. If the person is you, let the Bible speak to your situation and trust God's silence on some matters.

And remember this: We can be faithful and offer a faithful presence even when we cannot offer an explanation.

Pray

If you're unsure about how to pray about this, consider something like this, but make it your own.

Father, keep me from speaking where You have not spoken. Thank you for Jesus, who wisely knew when to speak and when to be silent, when to act and when to trust You to act. By Your Spirit, make me more like Jesus in the way I care for myself and others who suffer. In Jesus' name, amen.

Songs of Grace
Thursday, October 29, 2026
You Can Be Faithful While the Questions Remain
When God Is Silent | Psalm 44
Psalm 44:17–22; Romans 8:35–37

We often imagine obedience will quickly bring relief. But some of God's people have remained faithful through years of unanswered prayer. That may be true of you. Psalm 44 gives voice to that difficult reality.

Think

The worshipers insist that their hearts have not turned back from God (v 18). Still, they suffer. Verse 22 goes further: *'Yet for your sake we are killed all the day long.'* Belonging to God hasn't shielded them from hardship. It didn't for Jesus, either, but you know that.

Centuries later, Paul quotes this verse in Romans 8. He names distress, persecution, danger, and sword, and then declares that believers are more than conquerors through Christ who loved them. What was true of Israel then, was true for the Jews in Rome to whom Paul writes and it is true for us today as well.

The Lord hasn't promised to explain every sorrow now. I know that's hard. But He has promised that suffering cannot sever His people from Christ's love. And that's more important than a trouble-free life, which doesn't really exist for anyone, Christian or nonChristian.

Reflect

Where are you being asked to keep trusting the Lord without knowing how things will turn out? What might ordinary faithfulness look like for you in that situation today? That's a big ask, but it's one God asks of us.

So, think about this: Can you take one obedient step even while the larger question remains unanswered?

Apply

Choose one simple act of faithfulness today: pray again, read the Bible, keep a promise, serve someone, or return to a responsibility you've not been fulfilling because you're weary or upset. We'll ask God for the strength to do those things in just a moment.

And remember this: Your unanswered questions don't place you beyond the reach of Christ's love.

Pray

If you're unsure about how to pray about this, consider something like this, but make it your own.

Father, You know how difficult it is to keep going when I cannot see the outcome. Thank you that Jesus trusted You in the worst moments of his life. His surrender saves me *and* gives me a model for my life. By Your Spirit, form His faithful, joyful, obedient life in me today. In Jesus' name, amen.

Songs of Grace
Friday, October 30, 2026
Our Appeal Is His Steadfast Love
When God Is Silent | Psalm 44
Psalm 44:23-26

Have you ever prayed for so long, over and over again about something, that you wondered whether God was listening to you at all? The final lines of Psalm 44 sound like the prayer of people who have reached the end of their strength.

Think

'Awake! Why are you sleeping, O Lord?' (v 23). The psalmist knows God doesn't literally sleep. He's pleading for the Lord to act. The people are bowed down to the dust, and they have no power to rescue themselves. Then they make their final appeal, crying, *'Redeem us for the sake of your steadfast love!' (v 26).*

This is important. Israel doesn't present a record of accomplishments as the reason God should answer. They appeal to His *hesed*, His unilateral, enduring covenant love, based wholly on who He is and not who you are or how you live. (That's a great word, right there!). Then, the psalm ends without telling us what happened next. What? Yes, that's right. Why? Well, because that's real life. Yet its last words teach us where to turn while we wait: to the character of the God who loves His people....who loves you.

Reflect

Do you find yourself trying to prove to God that you've earned an answer? Or do you hesitate to ask for help because you feel unworthy? I think we all feel that way, or do that, from time to time.

So, think about this: What changes for you when you realize your prayers rest on God's steadfast love rather than your ability to deserve His help?

Apply

Pray the last verse of Psalm 44. Then name a burden you can't carry or resolve alone. Ask the Lord for help because of who He is. Then rest in Him, not yourself.

And remember this: God's steadfast love is a stronger foundation for prayer than our own unworthiness.

Pray

If you're unsure about how to pray about this, consider something like this, but make it your own.

Father, rise up and act for me where I have no strength. Thank you that Jesus waited to be filled with the Spirit before starting his ministry, showing me my constant need for You. By Your Spirit, teach me to rely wholly and only on Your steadfast love in our relationship. In Jesus' name, amen.

Songs of Grace
Saturday, October 31, 2026
It's Everlasting Love, So It Has the Last Word
When God Is Silent | Psalm 44
Psalm 44:22–26; Romans 8:36–39

Psalm 44 ends with a prayer still waiting for an answer. Many of our sorrows feel unfinished too. But the gospel gives us a hope that reaches beyond the part of our lives we can see.

Think

Paul takes the painful words of Psalm 44:22 and places them inside his assurance that nothing can separate believers from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Jesus entered our sorrow, endured rejection, and cried out from the cross. His suffering was uniquely redemptive: He bore our sin as Savior. The Father raised Him from the dead, declaring that suffering and death will not have the final word for you and me.

Now, we may not be able to explain why a particular prayer remains unanswered. But we can look to the cross and Jesus' resurrection to know that God has decisively revealed His love and is working all things together for our good. This gives us a reason to rejoice now, even if we cannot see our prayer answered right now. And beyond that, we can look ahead to the inheritance God is keeping for us in heaven (1 Peter 1:4).

Reflect

Are you waiting for a problem to be resolved before you allow yourself to worship and be happy? Or is someone beside you finding it hard even to sing? Faith was created for those very moments.

So, think about this: How does the cross and the resurrection help you smile and sing while your prayers remain unanswered?

Apply

Prepare for tomorrow's gathering by reading Romans 8:35–39 aloud. Pray for someone who is grieving. Maybe it's yourself. When you gather with the church, sing with that person in mind. If it's you, then sing in faith, trusting God's love and Jesus' resurrection as evidence of God's grace.

And remember this: The cross shows how deeply God loves us, and the empty tomb assures us His love will have the last word.

Pray

If you're unsure about how to pray about this, consider something like this, but make it your own.

Father, thank You that neither death nor life can separate me or any of your children from Your love in Jesus. Thank you that Jesus demonstrated Your love on the cross and that you have demonstrated your victory over sin and sorrow in the resurrection. By Your Spirit, help me worship while I wait and encourage someone whose heart is heavy. Keep my eyes on the risen Savior. In Jesus' name, amen.