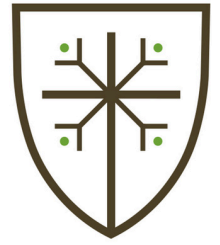


# SERMON NOTES



PRIMARY  
PSALMS SERMON SERIES  
PRAYER

August 11, 2024

## SERMON INFO

### TITLE

"Psalm 130"

### PREACHER

Ryan Dougan

### TEXTS

Psalm 130

Hebrews 10:19-25

Matthew 11:25-30

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How do you most often respond when you are convicted of your sin? What makes us afraid to confess boldly?
2. What can we do to be or become a community that "exhorts one another every day"?

## SERMON IN SUMMARY

This week, our guest preacher, Ryan Dougan, led us through Psalm 130 – a game plan for how to approach God after we have sinned.

### Honest Confession

At the beginning of Psalm 130, the psalmist speaks of sinking, an image of drowning. And this image is not of a physical place but a moral failure. He cries out with everything he is before God. He is utterly exposed and has nowhere else to turn but God himself. And God receives his confession. He speaks of the fear of God – a fear of awe that God would love a sinner such as himself. Often when our sin is found out, instead of an honest confession, we try to hide, rationalize, or brush it off by comparison with others. But eventually, it always comes to the surface. And only God can offer us true life, forgiveness of those sins which we try to avoid and hide from.

### Waiting in Hope

After our honest confession, we want an instant response, an immediate feeling of everything being better. But as our psalm shows us, we have to wait. Five times the psalmist speaks of waiting for the Lord. He compares it to watchmen waiting for the morning when they could finally relax, when the danger of the night has passed. But there was nothing they could do to make the sun rise faster. We hate waiting because it means we are not in control. We are dependent on something or someone else. In God, we find forgiveness and it is coming but while we wait, we are told to hope in his Word. Our feelings are not great assessors of how our life is going. God cares what we are going through, but it can't override your whole life. And so, instead of our feelings pulling us this way and that while we wait, God gives us His Word. His Word that reassures us, even when we don't feel his love, that it is "higher than the heavens."

### Community

In verses 7-9 the psalmist moves from self to the community. Your battle against sin was never meant to be a solo thing, never individual in its consequences or its victories. You can't confess your sin along. As we read in Hebrews 3, "exhort one another every day, as long as it is called today."

We find community not just in one another but in God's Spirit. We find that we are not alone in our struggle against sin because has given us a Helper.

Through Christ, we know we have been given access to boldly confess our sins before God and the assurance to wait with hope for his redeeming love. And so we gather together in that common hope.