



“Come and listen, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me.” Psalm 66:16 (NIV)

### **Early Commitment Total**

- 30 Families
- \$126,112.10

### What He's Done: Through Fire and Water Psalm 66

Psalm 66:8-12, 16 (ESV)

“Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard, who has kept our soul among the living and has not let our feet slip. For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried. You brought us into the net; you laid a crushing burden on our backs; you let men ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a place of abundance. Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for my soul.”

#### I. The Presence of Affliction

Verse 11-12 – “You brought us into the net; you laid a crushing burden on our backs; you let men ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water.”

John 16:33 (HCSB)

I have told you these things so that in Me you may have peace. You will have suffering in this world. Be courageous! I have conquered the world.”

Psalm 25:10 (ESV)

All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

#### II. The Purpose of Affliction

Verse 10 – “For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.”

- God Orchestrates our Suffering to Prove us.

Deuteronomy 8:2, 15-16 (NIV)

“Remember how the LORD your God led you all the way in the desert these forty years, to humble you and to test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands. He led you through the vast and dreadful desert, that thirsty and waterless land...to humble and to test you so that in the end it might go well with you.”

- God Orchestrates our Suffering to Purify us.

### III. The Promise of Deliverance

Verse 12 – “...You have brought us out to a place of abundance.”

II Corinthians 12:7-10 (ESV)

“A thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”

Psalms 22:23-24 (NIV)

You who fear the LORD, praise him! ...For he has not despised or disdained the suffering of the afflicted one; he has not hidden his face from him but has listened to his cry for help.

### IV. The Power of Testimony

Verse 16 – “Come and listen; let me tell you what he has done for me.”

John 9:3 (NIV)

"Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life.



Joni Eareckson Tada