

# An Ascent Into Easter

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Psalm 130:1-2

April 2, 2023

1. Pleading From the Depths
2. Standing in Fear
3. Waiting in Hope
4. Hoping With Others

## Study

### **Pleading From the Depths.** Read Psalm 130:1-2

1. On Sunday Ky mentioned that the purpose of poetry was to evoke emotion and invite the reader into the experience of the author. What are some examples of language in Psalm 130 that accomplish this purpose?
2. In verse 2 the Psalmist prays that the Lord would hear his pleas for mercy. On Sunday we talked about how mercy in this context refers to God's tender compassion in times of suffering. How have you seen God's tender compassion in times of suffering? What are some practical ways that you can extend this kind of mercy to the people in your life?
3. Can you think of a time when you had to persevere through something? What were the challenges and what was the outcome?
  - a) In Psalm 130:1-2 what does it look like for the Psalmist to persevere in prayer?
  - b) Read Luke 22:39-46. What did it look like for Jesus to persevere in prayer?
  - c) Read 1 Thess. 1:2-3, 1 Thess. 2:13, 1 Thess. 3:9-10, 2 Thess. 1:3, and 2 Thess. 1:11. What did it look like for Paul to persevere in prayer?
  - d) What might it look like for you to persevere in prayer?

### **Standing in Fear.** Read Psalm 130:3-4

1. What are some aspects of God's character that, apart from God's work in Christ, would be terrifying? How does the gospel address those terrors and invite us into trust and relationship with God the Father?
2. What are some practical things that you can do in the coming week to remind yourself of the gospel so that you might stand in wholehearted worship on Easter Sunday?

### **Waiting in Hope.** Read Psalm 130:5-6

1. In verse 6 the Psalmist uses the example of a sunrise to illustrate the point that Biblical hope is patiently waiting for something that is guaranteed in the future. What are some promises from God's Word that have strengthened you to wait faithfully in times of suffering?
2. This Easter, what are some things that you hope (in the Biblical sense of the word) that God will do? Take a minute and pray together that God will save people this Easter.

**Hoping With Others.** Read Psalm 130:7-8

1. In what ways do your experience of the Christian life not line up with the picture that we are given in the Bible? In these times how can we remind one another of God's plentiful redemption?
2. How has God radically redeemed you from your iniquities? How is he redeeming you now? Read Revelation 19:6-10. What is the ultimate hope that we have to look forward to?

## **Preparing for next week**

**Read:** Isaiah 26

**Ask:** questions of the text

**Pray:** through text, for the pastor as he prepares, for your heart to hear, for the congregation to hear, for all of us to be obedient.