

The following is the summary of the Sunday sermon that is sent to the body at Steadfast in an email called "The Weekly"

Psalm 3 Confidence in the Midst of Chaos

Why can we have confidence in the midst of the challenges and chaos of life? All of us certainly have faced challenges this past year and life has felt chaotic. David knew about the challenges of life. He knew what it was to live in the midst of chaos. David's own son (Absalom), whom he loved, undermined his authority and tried to have him killed so he could be king. Over a period of years, Absalom turned Israel against his father and towards himself. In Psalm 3, we find David praying in the morning and telling us why we can have confidence in the midst of chaos. Even though David's adversaries had increased and people were saying he had been forsaken by God, David knew he could call on the Lord and the Lord would hear his cry! In the good and the bad, I am thankful that when we as children of God raise our voices to heaven to speak to our heavenly Father, He hears us! David knew it and that comforted his heart. He knew he was not forsaken and he knew God heard him. This brought Him confidence! David also knew he could trust the Lord because of his relationship to Him. God was David's shield (his protector), his glory, and the lifter of his head. David did not look to his position (he was King), his wealth (he had an abundance), or his accomplishments (he had more than most) as his glory. God is what made him who he was and he looked to Him. Even though David had been forced to leave his throne, he knew God was still seated on His throne. David trusted God because he knew who He was! The sooner we believe and live out who God thinks we are, the sooner we will experience true life. The better we know the character of God the more confidence we will have in God. David also had confidence because he knew God was his salvation. He was able to sleep soundly, in the midst of all that was going on because he knew it was the Lord who sustained him. Like so many of the psalms he wrote, David concludes with praise. "Salvation belongs to the Lord; Thy blessing be upon Thy people!" In the middle of difficult circumstances and chaos, let's remember to follow David's example. Call on the Lord because He hears us! Trust in the Lord because of who He

is! Praise the Lord because He is our salvation! As you seek to apply this passage to your life, ask yourself these questions:

- When life begins to feel chaotic or challenging, is my first response to call on the Lord?
- Am I growing in the Lord? Knowing the Lord and trusting the Lord go together.
- Is praising the Lord a regular part of my life (more than just Sundays)?

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