

The Song in the Night

Job 35:9-10 NIV “People cry out under a load of oppression; they plead for relief from the arm of the powerful. But no one says, ‘Where is God my Maker, who gives songs in the night...’ *May 1st: “How you respond to your crosses and losses will determine your intimacy with God.”

- I. What is the song in the night?
 - a. Worshipping when it seems like darkness is having its way.
 - i. Our natural cry is to get out of trouble.
 - ii. God invites to ask for His songs in the night.
 - b. It is different than the song of the day. Psalm 42:1-8 NIV “As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God? My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me all day long, “Where is your God?” These things I remember as I pour out my soul how I used to go to the house of God under the protection of the Mighty One^g with shouts of joy and praise among the festive throng. Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God. My soul is downcast within me; therefore I will remember you from the land of the Jordan, the heights of Hermon—from Mount Mizar. Deep calls to deep in the roar of your waterfalls; all your waves and breakers have swept over me. By day the LORD directs his love, at night his song is with me...” The multitudes rejoicing and leading – the song in the day; now he is alone and broken – he needs to learn the song in the night.
 - i. 2007 – a time of abasement. Everything was outwardly failing – father, pastor, provider, and husband.
 - ii. Job 1:20 NIV “At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship.” *Kerry’s dream.
- II. It’s the most important song a Christian can learn.
 - a. It makes us unoffendable. (Matt. 11:6) David: Psalm 32:6-7 “Therefore let all the faithful pray to you while you may be found; surely the rising of the mighty waters will not reach them. You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance.” “You unravel me, with a melody, you surround me with a song. Of deliverance, from my enemies, ‘til all my fears are gone.” The two lowest times in David’s life.
 - i. David when he was about to be stoned by his own men. He strengthened himself in God.

ii. David when he was being chased by Absalom and at risk of losing everything. Psalm 3 – “Thou oh Lord are a shield for me, my glory and the lifter of my head.”

- b. It secures our identity. Jesus in the wilderness – The Spirit led Him to be tempted by the devil – test or tempt – both – If you are the Son of God – He had to stand for who He was instead of giving into fear and compromise; us in the wilderness – Hosea 2:14 and 16. “I want to be romanced by the king of the ages, I don’t want to sing of a passion I’ve never known, I want to get lost in the beauty of Jesus and dance through the night around your throne... dance with me.” *How Evan Earwicker received that song.

III. Learning the song in the night.

a. Let go of entitlement.

- i. January 1st 2016 I was waiting for an apology that would never come. *Job and the older brother. “Who has ever given to God, that God should repay them?” (Romans 11:35 NIV quoting Job 41:11) My theology was grace but my identity was entitlement. If you’ve been good it’s hard not to feel God owes you like the older brother did.
- ii. Two things will surprise you about God – How much He asks of us, and how much He is willing to give to us. Romans 8:32 The God who owes us nothing, wants to give us everything, but it will always be on His terms.

b. Allow God to comfort and heal when you are still in darkness.

- i. December 17th. “Everything you’re thinking is wrong.” *Deut. 29:29 “The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our children forever...” The call to silence – we’re not in management but we want to be.
- ii. The importance of lament. The Christmas message – Matthew 2:18 NIV “A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more.”^[d]— Psalm 34:18 *My process with Will helped me to give comfort to others – what we go through gives us authority to comfort and heal others.
- iii. Grieving is not a problem to solve, it’s a process to go through. *Everyone is different so give them space and be present – Job’s friends did great for seven days and seven nights.

c. Choose the one thing.

- i. David’s choice – Psalm 27:8 NASB; 27:4
- ii. Paul’s choice – Phil. 3:10 “that I might know Him in the fellowship of His sufferings. *Being alone and misunderstood. *Having a thorn that can’t be explained – everyone has a cross just like everyone

has a gift. Life doesn't always go the way you planned or believed – what will you do?

- iii. The promise to all who choose. Luke 10:42 NASB
“...but *only* one thing is necessary; for Mary has chosen the good part, which shall not be taken away from her.” *God's faithfulness to me and to us – you can always have this, no matter what the season.

Where are you? Do you need to surrender outcomes and die to self-protection? Are you grieving and need of God's comfort and healing? Are you in a season of breaking and need the humility to be quiet? Do you need to offer bitterness to God?