

The Psalms: Infallible Inspiration For Living
Psalm 80
Inspiration In Confusion

- Can anyone share a time or season when you truly felt God was no longer in control?**
- How did you handle the doubt?**

There are four parts to Psalm 80 that, if properly understood, will inspire us in times of spiritual confusion.

- (1)** The PURPOSE of the Psalm: Asaph is crying out to God for Him to restore Israel to His favor. (80:1-3)

- In seasons of doubt, what do you tend to ask from God?**
- What is Asaph's point in the descriptive terminology of Ps 80:1-2?**
- How would you personalize Ps 80:1-2 in your seasons of doubt?**
- In less than a minute, someone share your testimony of salvation**
- Why is recalling your testimony important?**

- (2)** The CONTEXT of the Psalm: They are suffering from God's hand of discipline in response to their sin. (80:4-7)

- How do you respond to God's discipline?**
- How can you tell the difference between discipline and tough circumstances?**
- Do other peoples' doubts affect you?**
- Have you seen your doubts affect others, especially non-believers?**

- (3)** The Confusion of the Psalm: It FELT like God was permanently doing away with the people He had so gloriously established as His people. (80:8-16)

- Is there anything that might cause you to think God has abandoned you?**
- How do unanswered 'why' questions affect your trust in God (re-read Ps 80:12-13)?**
- Discuss this Statement from Austin's sermon:** Repentance doesn't free us from His discipline or the fruit of our sin in this life; it frees us for His discipline to RESTORE us!
- Is there a verse you go to that reminds you that God's grace accepts your repentance and restores you?**

- (4)** The Resolve of the Psalm: Asaph believed the people needed to SEE a measure of God's grace to ever truly repent! (80:17-19)

- "Let your face shine, that we may be saved" is in verses 3, 7 & 19.**
- What is meant by the phrase above, in the 3 different verses?**

New Testament Application: The greatest demonstration possible of God's favor is Jesus. Your circumstances may not look or FEEL like God loves you, has forgiven you, or has

restored you, but the cross and the empty tomb shout otherwise! (Romans 2:4, Titus 2:11-14).

-In addition to your salvation, where has God shown you unmeasurable grace?

Challenge: Will you believe the greatest TESTIMONY of grace ever bestowed, or ignore it?

Other Scriptures Mentioned: Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28.

Discuss the Objective of the Month