

## **WELCOME TO SOUTHEAST**

Southeast provides relational environments where you can find **Jesus, community, and purpose**.

#### **GET CONNECTED**

God created us for community. If you are interested in serving, participating in a life group, or would like more information about an upcoming event, visit **southeastcc.org** or send an email to **connect@southeastcc.org**.

## **NEED PRAYER?**

We are honored to pray with you or for you. Join us after services to pray with someone at **southeastcc.org**. You may also submit a prayer request at **southeastcc.org/prayer**.

# **PSALMS OF THE ASCENT - 123**

# NOTES | 8.28.22

Psalm 123 English Standard Version (ESV)

# A Song of Ascents.

To you I lift up my eyes,

O you who are enthroned in the heavens!

Behold, as the eyes of servants

look to the hand of their master.

as the eyes of a maidservant

to the hand of her mistress,

so our eyes look to the Lord our God.

till he has mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us,

for we have had more than enough of contempt.

Our soul has had more than enough

of the scorn of those who are at ease.

of the contempt of the proud.

#### Lamentations 3:7-33 ESV

He has walled me about so that I cannot escape;

he has made my chains heavy;

though I call and cry for help,

he shuts out my prayer;

he has blocked my ways with blocks of stones;

he has made my paths crooked.

He is a bear lying in wait for me,

a lion in hiding;

he turned aside my steps and tore me to pieces;

he has made me desolate:

he bent his bow and set me

as a target for his arrow.

He drove into my kidneys

the arrows of his quiver;

I have become the laughingstock of all peoples,

the object of their taunts all day long.

He has filled me with bitterness;

he has sated me with wormwood.

He has made my teeth grind on gravel,

and made me cower in ashes:

my soul is bereft of peace;

I have forgotten what happiness is;

so I say, "My endurance has perished;

so has my hope from the Lord."

Remember my affliction and my wanderings,

the wormwood and the gall!

My soul continually remembers it

and is bowed down within me.

But this I call to mind,

and therefore I have hope:

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases:

his mercies never come to an end:

they are new every morning;

great is your faithfulness.

"The Lord is my portion," says my soul,

"therefore I will hope in him."

The Lord is good to those who wait for him,

to the soul who seeks him.

It is good that one should wait quietly

for the salvation of the Lord.

It is good for a man that he bear

the yoke in his youth.

Let him sit alone in silence

when it is laid on him:

let him put his mouth in the dust-

there may yet be hope;

let him give his cheek to the one who strikes,

and let him be filled with insults.

For the Lord will not

cast off forever.

but, though he cause grief, he will have compassion

according to the abundance of his steadfast love;

for he does not afflict from his heart

or grieve the children of men.

#### Psalm 73:1-17 ESV

## A Psalm of Asaph.

Truly God is good to Israel,

to those who are pure in heart.

But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled,

my steps had nearly slipped.

For I was envious of the arrogant

when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

For they have no pangs until death;

their bodies are fat and sleek.

They are not in trouble as others are;

they are not stricken like the rest of mankind.

Therefore pride is their necklace;

violence covers them as a garment.

Their eyes swell out through fatness;

their hearts overflow with follies.

They scoff and speak with malice;

loftily they threaten oppression.

They set their mouths against the heavens,

and their tongue struts through the earth.

Therefore his people turn back to them,

and find no fault in them.

And they say, "How can God know?

Is there knowledge in the Most High?"

Behold, these are the wicked;

always at ease, they increase in riches.

All in vain have I kept my heart clean

and washed my hands in innocence.

For all the day long I have been stricken

and rebuked every morning.

If I had said, "I will speak thus,"

I would have betrayed the generation of your children.

But when I thought how to understand this,

it seemed to me a wearisome task.

until I went into the sanctuary of God;

then I discerned their end.

# **IMPLICATIONS**

- 1. Where we place our focus says a lot about how we weather the brokenness of the world.
- 2. It is easy to feel unseen when we try to live life outside of community. Coming back to relationships helps remind us we are not alone.
- 3. At the end of the day, many of the things we focus on just don't matter.
- 4. God loves us so much that He strips away all competing distractions so that we can become everything that He has intended us to be.





