

PSALMS OF ASCENT

WEEK 2

DAY 1: READ PSALM 120:1 & JEREMIAH 29:10-14

Are you in distress? Call to the Lord. Our God is faithful to listen. Most of us know He listens, but we forget the second part: He answers! When we're in distress, let's reflect on the ways God has listened and answered us in our times of trouble. Today's struggle is no different. Thank Him in advance for answering you.

DAY 2: READ PSALM 120:2 & MATTHEW 5:43-48

Our hearts are troubled enough on their own, but we also live in a world filled with other troubled hearts. A life with Jesus is not guaranteed to be free from being hurt by other sinful people, but we are promised eternal life and assured of His provision for us in all seasons. Choose today to specifically pray for those who are causing you pain, trouble and hardship.

DAY 3: READ PSALM 120:3-4

God is righteous and just. His perfect justice might not mean you see the results you want for the people you think deserve it, but we, too, deserve the wrath of His perfect judgment. We deserve it, but we have rescue in the blood of Jesus. Who else needs to know the hope of Jesus today? How can you share it with them?

DAY 4: READ PSALM 120:5-6

We will not always find ourselves among people who know the love of Jesus or study God's word. People hated Jesus when He was with them. People still hate Him now and reject the truth of scripture, but these people need Him too. Maybe you're in exile with strange or harsh people, but Jesus came to rescue them too. How can you bring the peace of Jesus to those around you today?

DAY 5: READ PSALM 120:7

While we must seek to share the peace of Jesus with every soul, we must expect opposition. We might be rebuked, cursed, beaten or even killed for our efforts, but we must never presume that the hope of Jesus hinges solely on our abilities, skills or talents. Our duty is to be obedient, loving messengers. The Holy Spirit does the work; He softens hearts, lingers in minds and speaks to troubled hearts.

DAY 6: READ ISAIAH 55

The Word of God does not return null and void. Jesus, the living Word of God, nourishes us and causes us to flourish. We bud and bloom only because of His redeeming work in our lives. Let the overflow of His work in our lives spread the seed of His word and cause every parched heart to break open in praise, joy and relief at the hope of Jesus. Find some way to outwardly express the joy and peace of knowing Jesus. Get creative!