

Comfort in Affliction

Psalm 119:73-80

All scripture is taken from the NIV translation
unless otherwise indicated.

We all need comfort when facing affliction. When our hearts hurt, we need the kind of comfort only God can provide. Having loved ones during these times is important, but they can only do so much. Learning to go to God with our aching hearts is a must.

The road might seem long and hard in learning to seek God first in times of trouble. Before learning this, I sought out loved ones who seemed readily available, or maybe not. Sometimes people were there when I first thought I needed them, and sometimes they weren't. The Lord was patient and kind as I saw for myself that He needed to be my first stop. Thankfully, I also had people who pointed me back to Him.

The psalmist continues to give us an intimate look into his relationship with God. He contrasts how the arrogant have wronged him and God's faithful comfort. He chose to focus on God rather than his affliction. Read Psalm 119:73-80.

Hearing the Word

1. Why did the psalmist ask God to give him an understanding of His commands in verse 73?
2. How does God's Word in verse 77 encourage and uphold the psalmist during his times of affliction?
3. What's the significance of the psalmist wanting people to turn to God in verses 74 and 79?
4. How did God's faithfulness shape the psalmist's view of his affliction in verse 75?
5. How has God's faithfulness shaped your view of affliction?
6. What was the psalmist facing in verse 78?
7. What's significant about the descriptive love language in verses 76-77 and 80?

Responding to the Word

- What barriers do you face as a nurse in your relationship with Christ?
- How can you allow Jesus to comfort you when afflicted as a nurse?
- What words of encouragement is Jesus saying to you today?

- Because of the psalmist's relationship with God, he was able to see the difficulty and God's faithfulness. Not only did he see it, but he wanted to be an example of trusting and receiving God's love in difficulty. Thank God that he wants to love and care for you in the hardest places of your work.

The psalmist gives us a great example of how he dealt with affliction before God. Write a prayer to God about what you're facing today. Be honest. Tell Him what you need. How did He respond to you?