

Walking in the Word

Title: The Path of the Darkest Night

Date: September 20, 2026

Scripture: Psalm 119:81-88

Speaker: Darrin Wright

Main Idea

When we cannot see what God is doing, we can continue to trust what He has said, bring Him our questions, and depend on His steadfast love for strength to obey.

Sermon in Brief

Psalm 119:81-88 describes a believer worn down by prolonged suffering. The psalmist longs for God's intervention, watches for His promise, and feels as depleted as a wineskin in the smoke. His enemies spread lies and set traps, and he wonders how long he must endure. Yet he continues to hope in God's Word.

His questions become prayers as he asks when comfort and justice will come. He keeps remembering God's commands, trusting their truth, and asking for help. His final prayer seeks renewed life through God's steadfast love so that he can continue in obedience. Christ's death and resurrection display that love, and those who belong to Him cannot be separated from it.

Main Points:

- 1. The Depth of the Psalmist's Distress - Psalm 119:81-83, 85-87.** He feels exhausted and almost finished, yet he hopes in God's Word. Weariness does not necessarily mean unbelief.
- 2. The Depth of the Psalmist's Despair - Psalm 119:82, 84.** He asks when comfort will come and how long he must endure. Lament brings these questions to God in faith.
- 3. The Depth of the Psalmist's Dependence - Psalm 119:81, 83, 86-88.** He clings to Scripture, prays "Help me," and asks God for life through His steadfast love so that he may obey.

Memory Verse: "My soul longs for your salvation; I hope in your word." - Psalm 119:81 (ESV)

Key Quotes

“Weariness does not necessarily mean unbelief.”

“Your usefulness to God is not determined by how productive you feel.”

“When we cannot see what God is doing, we can continue to trust what God has said.”

“The darkest hour may make us feel like we’re almost finished, but we’re never beyond the reach of God’s covenant love.”

Reflect & Respond

Complete these statements:

- The burden I am weary of carrying is...
- The question I need to bring honestly to God is...
- The truth from His Word I need to remember is...
- The help I need to remain faithful today is...

Walking in the Word This Week

Read Psalm 119:81-88 each day this week.

Day 1: Name your weariness and place your hope in God’s Word (v. 81).

Day 2: Bring your question about waiting to God (vv. 82, 84).

Day 3: Remember a truth from Scripture when comfort feels distant (v. 83).

Day 4: Entrust opposition or mistreatment to God (vv. 85-86).

Day 5: Pray simply, “Help me,” about a specific need (v. 86).

Day 6: Ask for strength to obey when compromise is tempting (v. 87).

Day 7: Ask for renewal through God’s love so you can walk with Him (v. 88).

Prayer: Lord, I am weary of waiting. Help me trust Your Word, bring You my questions, and receive strength from Your steadfast love to remain faithful today.

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