

## Applying God's Word

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**This Week's Passage:** Psalm 89

**Corresponding Sermon from King's Church:** "How Long, O LORD?"

### Opening Discussion

1. Read this week's passage together.
2. Share *your* immediate observations from this text. Was there anything shared in Sunday's sermon that stuck out to *you*?
3. In what ways were you able to see *yourself* in the sermon and in the text?

### Going Deeper

1. In Psalm 89 the psalmist cries out to God in despair and worry. He wonders why God hasn't fulfilled his promises and why it seems that just the opposite is happening. In fact, in **vv.46-51** we see a man at the end of his strength crying out, How long, O LORD? What does this teach us about the role of lament in the lives of God's people? How should we view difficulty and suffering?
  
2. In this Psalm we are also given a peak into the real emotions behind the prayer of the psalmist. Notice that throughout the lament, he is open and honest about his feelings. He cries out to God. He lays his worries, fears, and burdens before God. What does this teach us about the way we can and should approach God?

3. In thinking about your own prayers and relationship with God, how do you think it lines up with what you've learned here? Are you able to be real and honest with God? Or do you think you must "pretend" in his presence? What do you do with your doubts, discouragement, and fears?
  
4. Notice the order of the psalmists prayer. He begins in **vv.1-37** by recounting God's goodness, power, love, and covenantal faithfulness. It is on the basis of those glorious truths that he is then able to bring his laments before God. Look at the similarities in what Jesus teaches in **Matthew 6:9-13**. What does this say to us about the hope we have even in the midst of lament? Why does a grounding in the truth of who God is free us to bring our worries and fears before him? How should this affect our prayers and approach to God?

#### Prayer Points

1. Praise God for his goodness and the promises he has given us!
2. Ask the Lord to help you be honest before him and rely not on your own strength but in his faithfulness.