

ROCK SOLID: The God of the Psalms

"Our God Rescues Me" Psalm 3 | July 24-25, 2021

This provides about one hour of focused reading and discussion following the points of Pastor Dary Northrop's message. Feel free to use the portions you find most helpful.

1. The **sad reality** | **Psalm 3**

- Read **2 Samuel 15:1-14**. We don't know the details about David's influence and relationship on his children. But we do know that Absalom chose a self-serving path in opposition to his father, the king. We also know that children raised in godly homes can turn away from the faith today. This results in anguish for parents, and questions like, "What could I have done differently? When does my responsibility end with raising my kids?"
- If you have kids, have you ever found yourself asking these kinds of questions? For those of us currently feeling this way, what can we do now?
- What is something you invested yourself in that did not yield the results you wanted?

2. The **voice of strangers** | **Psalm 3:2**

- The negative voices can surround us, including the enemy of our souls, but God helps us even when we are undeserving. Read **John 10:1-5**.
- What is your "self-talk" like these days?
- How can we learn to distinguish the truth in the voices around us - and how do we make that work in a practical way? Which voices help us keep our focus on what God is calling us to do?

3. What is my **view of God?** | **Psalm 3:3-4**

- Read **Psalm 139:7-12** and **Psalm 61:1-4**. Under stress or pain, what is my response - to run toward God, or run away from him?

4. The **mystery of peace** | **Psalm 3:5-6**

- Read **Psalm 127:1-2**, **Isaiah 26:3**, **John 14:27**, **John 16:33**, and **Philippians 4:6-7**.
- How can we have God's peace in the middle of difficulties?
- Discuss how confidence and peace interact and complement each other.

5. To whom will I **vent?** | **Psalm 3:7**

- Read **Psalm 6:6-10** and **Romans 8:22-27**. What can we learn from David when we are faced with trouble? How is venting like lament? How is praise a part of the process?

6. The **proclamation** | **Psalm 3:8**

- Read **John 17:1** and **20-21**. What connections do you see between the approaches Jesus and David each took in prayer? How can this influence our prayers?

Close with a theme-related song:

"Praise You in This Storm"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0YUGwUgBvTU>

"Yet I Will Praise You"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9YJR4IBJ-O4>

If you have a prayer need, ask a friend or two here to pray with you, and to support you in prayer this week.