



Crossway
Multinational
Church

We strive to be are a church that is
for, of and by
the peoples of many nations

1

The fundamental requirement of the church:

The Greatest Commandments

- love God with our whole being *Mark 12:29-31*
 - Worship **and** obey
- love our neighbors as ourselves
 - “Rejoice with those who rejoice;
mourn with those who mourn.
Live in harmony with one another.” *Romans 12:15-16*
 - “**Learn to do right; seek justice.**
Defend the oppressed.
Take up the cause of the fatherless;
plead the case of the widow.” *Isaiah 1:17*

2



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We strive to be are a church that is
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Genuine top-to-bottom inclusion

3



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4



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“If one part suffers, every part suffers with it.”

1 Corinthians 12:26

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Lament

- A model for how to process deeply troubling times
- A model for how to express our emotions to God while also looking to God for help
 - It helps us grieve with hope
 - For some of us, these days are troubling beyond words
 - For others of us, the first step in love is to listen well and join the lament
 - Other steps must follow

6

Psalm 142

A maskil of David.

When he was in the cave.

A prayer.

- ¹ I **cry aloud** to the Lord;
I **lift up my voice** to the Lord for mercy.
- ² I **pour out** before him my **complaint**;
before him I **tell** my **trouble**.

God invites us to cry out to Him in our troubles

7

- ³ When **my spirit grows faint** within me,
it is you who watch over my way.
In the path where I walk
people have **hidden a snare for me**.
- ⁴ Look and see,
there is **no one** at **my right hand**;
no one is concerned for me.
I have **no refuge**;
no one cares for my life.

God invites us to tell Him our troubles

8

⁵ I cry to you, Lord;
 I say, “You are my refuge,
 my portion in the land of the living.”

The reason God should act

⁶ **Listen** to my cry,
 for **I am in desperate need**;
rescue me from those who pursue me,
 for **they are too strong for me.**

⁷ **Set me free** from my prison,
that I may praise your name.

God invites us to tell Him what we need Him to do

9

Then the righteous will gather about me
 because of your goodness to me.

Those who grieve will no longer be alone

So we grieve with hope: God’s goodness will come

We must then trust that God has heard and that He will help

10

The Big Idea

**God invites us to cry out to Him
when we are in trouble**

- 1. telling Him our troubles**
- 2. and telling Him what we need Him to do**
- 3. then trusting that He has heard
and that He will help**

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Application

- When **we** are in trouble
 - **Cry out to God**
 1. Tell Him our troubles
 2. Tell Him what we need Him to do
 3. Trust that He has heard and He will help
 - Write a psalm, a song, a poem, or use someone else's
 - Record your thoughts or write a letter to God
 - Paint a painting, create a dance
 - Tell a very close friend who will listen with compassion
 - Cry with another

12

Application

- When **we** are in trouble
- When **our friends or family** are in trouble
 - Support them in crying out to God
 - Listen with compassion and generosity
 - Hear their heart
 - Hear their story from their perspective
 - Be discerning about the time to take action or give counsel

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Application

- When **we** are in trouble
 - Cry out to God
- When **our friends or family** are in trouble
 - Support them in crying out to God

14

The Big Idea

**God invites us to cry out to Him
when we are in trouble**

- 1. telling Him our troubles**
- 2. and telling Him what we need Him to do**
- 3. then trusting that He has heard
and that He will help**

15

Psalm 142: The Message

I cry out loudly to God,
loudly I plead with God for mercy.

**I spill out all my complaints before him,
and spell out my troubles in detail:**

“As I sink in despair, my spirit ebbing away,
you know how I’m feeling,

Know the danger I’m in,
the traps hidden in my path.

Look right, look left—

there’s not a soul who cares what happens!

**I’m up against it, with no exit—
bereft, left alone.**

**We invite you
who are deeply troubled
to share your heart**

bereft = lonely, abandoned

16

I cry out, God, call out:

‘You’re my last chance, my only hope for life!’

Oh **listen, please listen;**

I’ve never been this low.

Rescue me from those who are hunting me down;

I’m no match for them.

Get me out of this dungeon
so I can thank you in public.

**Let us tell God
what we want and need
Him to do**

Your people will form a circle around me
and you’ll bring me showers of blessing!”

17

**As a church, we choose
to stand with those who are in trouble
and we choose to join the journey together
in seeking God’s will and God’s ways
on earth as it is in heaven**

Your people will form a circle around me
and you’ll bring me showers of blessing!”

18

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
 as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from the evil one.
For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory
Forever.
Amen