

When there is no answer...

You send a message, but you hear nothing in reply

- **What might have happened?**
- **What happens in our hearts and minds?**

We pray in our troubles, but we hear nothing in reply...

- **How are we to think, feel, and act?**

Pray:

- **Hear our prayer**
- **Help us to hear Your Spirit speaking to us**

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The Head, Heart, and Hands of God

Exodus 3:7–10

bib.ly/Exo3.NIV
tiny.cc/cmchandouts

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The People of Israel

God gave them wonderful promises: a people and a land
 → the land would bring... peace, security, and blessing

Yet for 400 years, they lived in a land not their own

- Conditions kept getting worse
- They were oppressed as slaves
- Their baby boys being killed to control them

Where was God?

- Did He know?
- Did He care?
- Could He do anything?
- Would He do anything?

3

Exodus 3:7-10

The Lord said, “I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.”

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The Big Idea

Though God may seem absent,

He sees, Head

He cares, Heart

and He is delivering Hands

all who trust in Him

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“How long, Lord? Will you forget me forever?

How long will you hide your face from me?

How long must I wrestle with my thoughts

and day after day have sorrow in my heart?

How long will my enemy triumph over me?”

Psalm 13:1-2

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**His hands may be invisible, but they are not still
Lament is a way for us to express trust when God seems absent**

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Application

Trust God 's head, heart, hands integrated as one

- **Cry out to God**
 - Use the words of Scripture
 - Write (or draw or enact) a lament: cmcfamily.org/lament.html
 - Crying out to God in trouble is a powerful expression of trust
- **God knows, He cares, and He is working to rescue**
 - The grace of Jesus Christ on the cross
 - The justice of Jesus Christ in His return
 - “He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things.” *Romans 8:32*

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Application

Trust God 's head, heart, hands integrated as one

Weep with those who weep

- Listen
- Cry together
- Lament to God together
 - passionate expression of grief or sorrow expressed to God with growing hope in Him

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Application

Trust God 's head, heart, hands integrated as one

Weep with those who weep

Follow the ways of God: head, heart, hands

- See
 - Look and listen, rather than turn away or ignore
- Care
 - Jesus wept at the funeral of Lazarus
 - Ask: "Would you like to tell me about it?"
- Act
 - Ask the one in need:
 - "Would it be helpful if I ...?"
 - "What can I do?"

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The Big Idea

Though God may seem absent,

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The Lord says to all who put their faith in Jesus:

I have indeed seen your misery.

I have heard you crying out because of your trouble.

I am concerned about your suffering.

So I have come down to be with you...

until the day when all crying and mourning
will be replaced by joy with God forever.

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